DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

Soviet Union

Vol III No 015 *23 January 1986*

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

ARMS CONTROL & DISARMAMENT

U.S. Bears Onus for European Nuclear Problem [Bogachev] AA 1
Statements by U.S. Officials Cause Concern AA 2
[Chernyshev in KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 23 Jan]
Gorbachev Proposals Meant for All States AA 4
[Shishlin in SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA 21 Jan]
Initiative Demonstrates Soviet Desire for Peace AA 5
[Lomeyko in LITERATURNAYA GAZETA 21 Jan]
'Top Priority' Examines Gorbachev Initiative [Posner, Bogdanov, Plekhanov] AA 6
Kennan Exemplifies Changing U.S. Attitudes [Matveyev in IZVESTIYA 17 Jan] AA 10

WORLD & REGIONAL ISSUES

Foreign Ministry Holds Press Briefing 21 Jan CC 1
Sweden's Palme Chairs Disarmament Committee Session [PRAVDA 21 Jan] CC 2
Gorbachev Initiative Welcomed by Foreign Leaders [Bokhonko] CC 2
Zholkver Views NATO Exercises in West Germany CC 3
KRASNAYA ZVEZDA Views NATO Conventional War Plans [Alekseyev 17 Jan] CC 4
TASS Reports Yugoslav-Greek Communique CC 7

UNITED STATES & CANADA

U.S. Budget To Escalate 'Small Intensity Wars' [Sobolev] A 1
Spirit of Geneva 'Alarms' Cold War Advocates [Kalyagin] A 1
Seaman Medvid on 'Trumped Up' Story of Escape A 2
Ponomarev Condemns U.S. Testing Cruise in Canada A 3
Scope of Canadian-U.S. Military Links Exposed [Melikyan] A 4
Senators View Peace Initiative, Supsov's Address [Turkatenko] A 4
Cosmonauts' Arrival in San Francisco Reported A 5
New Book Views 'Widescale' Anti-Terrorist Course [Borisenko] A 6
Soviet Tanker Rescues Two Americans in Atlantic A 6
Soviet, U.S. Fisherman Meet in Nakhodka A 7
[Balakirev in IZVESTIYA 17 Jan]
Expanded Cooperation Begins in Rescue System A 7
Sturua Examines U.S. Cultural 'Debt' [IZVESTIYA 13 Jan] A 8

NORTHEAST ASIA

More Reports on Shevardnadze Visit to DPRK C 1
Kim Il-song Receives Shevardnadze [PRAVDA 23 Jan] C 1
Treaty, Agreement Signed C 2
Cordiality Shows Firm Ties [Korolev] C 2
Shevardnadze Departs C 3
Shevardnadze Visit to Mongolia Reported C 3
Further Reportage on MPR Defense Minister's Visit C 3
Yondon Visits Mausoleum C 3
Gromyko Praises Cooperation C 4
Commentators Review Shevardnadze's Visit to Japan C 4
Tavrovskiy C 4
Login C 5

SOUTH ASIA

Kuznetsov, Delegation Depart for India 21 Jan D 1
Seen Off by Demichev D 1
Delegation Arrives in India D 1
TASS Notes U.S. General's Talks in Pakistan D 1
Talks With Foreign Minister D 1
Meets With Prime Minister D 2
Beloshapko Comments on Indian-Pakistani Talks D 2
PRAVDA Describes Armed Clashes in Afghanistan [Verstakov 17, 19 Jan] D 3
Kabul Press Conference Held on Domestic Situation D 4

SOUTHEAST ASIA & PACIFIC

U.S. Military Buildup Linked to Philippine Poll [Kovalev in IZVESTIYA 18 Jan] E 1
Philippine Unions Protest U.S. Interference E 1
Cambodian Statement Fully Supports USSR Arms Proposals E 2
Australia's Hayden on 'Positive Aspects' in USSR Proposals E 2
U.S. Delegation Holds Talks in SRV on MIA's [IZVESTIYA 20 Jan] E 2

EASTERN EUROPE

Cooperation Agreements Signed With GDR, CSSR [IZVESTIYA 22 Jan] F 1
Joint Gas Cooperation Document Signed With GDR [IZVESTIYA 22 Jan] F 2
Honecker, Qaddumi Voice Support for Soviet Policy F 2
Bugayev Discusses Cooperation With CSSR's Bahyl F 3
Albanian Paper Condemns U.S. 'Anti-Libyan Campaign' [PRAVDA 18 Jan] F 3

WESTERN EUROPE

Tolkunov Meets With French Parliamentarians G 1
Further on Talks With French Trade Delegation G 2
Dadyants Assesses Cooperation [SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA 16 Jan] G 2
Economic, Science Protocol Signed G 4
TASS Notes 'Positive Response' to Cyprus Proposal [Sidoruk] G 4
Greek Prime Minister Cited on U.S. Missiles G 5
IZVESTIYA Notes Spanish-Israeli Diplomatic Ties [Vernikov 20 Jan] G 6
Surguchev Comments on Greenham Common 'Spies' Story G 6
Italian Communists Protest Presence of U.S. Base G 7
Italian Communist Praises Gorbachev Proposal G 8
Austrian Communist Party Leader on Initiative G 8
Correction to Soviet-UK Consultation Report G 8

MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA

Communist, Social Agencies Respond to Yemen Crisis H 1
Arab Communists' Appeal [PRAVDA 21 Jan] H 1
Aid Sent to PDRY H 1
Talyzin Reiterates Soviet Support for Libya [JANA] H 1
Al-Qadhdhafi Decries 'Economic War' H 1
Hammadi Meets Komsomol First Secretary in Moscow [SANA] H 2
Sudanese-Soviet Economic Talks To Begin 23 Jan [SUNA] H 2
Lebanese Forces Chief Resigns Following Defeat [Glukhov in PRAVDA 17 Jan] H 2

SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

Lesotho Coup 'Instigated' by South Africa J 1
Ambassador to Zaire Reassigned to Other Work J 1

LATIN AMERICA & CARIBBEAN

Lavrentyev on 'Peace March' Through Central America K 1
Guatemalan Foreign Minister on Foreign Policy Line K 2
Colombian, Soviet Ministers Meet in Moscow [Havana] K 2
Uruguayan Leaders Asses Country's Status K 3
[Khachaturov in IZVESTIYA 17 Jan]

U.S. BEARS ONUS FOR EUROPEAN NUCLEAR PROBLEM

LD221734 Moscow TASS in English 1708 GMT 22 Jan 86

["Dangerous Development of Events in Europe Must Be Stopped" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, January 22 TASS -- TASS military analyst Vladimir Bogachev writes: A set of proposals for strengthening security in Europe is among the more important parts of the large-scale Soviet program of ridding the earth of nuclear weapons, which has been formulated in a statement by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

Despite the nuclear problem in Europe having been under discussion for many years, the situation in the continent keeps worsening. The onus for this is wholly and squarely on the United States which has been refusing to look for mutually acceptable solutions to the problem of nuclear armaments in Europe in earnest.

Contrary to the national interests of European nations, American first-strike nuclear missiles are continuing to be deployed in the territories of several NATO member countries. Washington has supplemented its long-standing concept of a "limited" nuclear war in Europe with a no less dangerous "star wars" strategy. In keeping with the Pentagon's illusory yet dangerous plans, the anti-missile shield for the United States would make the aggressor safe if it unleashes a conflict in the European Continent, far from U.S. shores. The substance of this strategy of the Pentagon lies in making certain that it is primarily Europeans that will have to pay for the consequences of U.S. military ventures.

The Soviet Union has long been proposing delivering Europe from both medium-range and tactical nuclear weapons. As a first radical step in this direction, the USSR has now suggested eliminating all ballistic and medium-range cruise missiles of the USSR and the United States in the European zone as early as the first stage. The United States should make a commitment not to supply its strategic missiles and medium-range missiles to other countries, while Britain and France not to build up [as received] their corresponding nuclear forces.

At a time when the world public has expressed deep satisfaction with the new Soviet proposals, ultra-rightist quarters in the United States see them as a threat to their plans of whipping up the arms race, a threat to the lucrative business of churning out weapons of mass annihilation.

U.S. Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger, who only recently was eager to convince Europeans that the United States is seeking to eliminate the whole class of medium-range weapons, is now saying something quite different, namely that even a reduction of American Pershings in Europe would be extremely dangerous in itself.

Pentagon spokesmen are also claiming that the destruction of all Soviet medium-range missiles in the European zone would have no military significance since it would allegedly be possible to transfer the mobile missiles remaining in Asia to sites in Europe, thousands kilometers away, as swiftly as hunting guns.

It should be recalled in this connection that the Soviet missiles in the east are meant only to offset the corresponding U.S. potential in the zone of Asia and the Pacific. They have not been installed there to be later moved from place to place. The USSR has repeatedly declared its readiness to respond with adequate measures to reductions of the American nuclear armory in the Far East. But the United States has been blocking the Soviet proposals for making Asia and the Pacific a zone of peace and cooperation.

The Soviet missiles will ultimately be scrapped also in Asia if the United States and other NATO countries accept the Soviet program for nuclear disarmament.

The question arises: If the geographical location of mobile missiles has no practical significance, as it is claimed in Washington, why wouldn't the Pentagon order the dismantling of American mobile missiles in Western Europe and their return to the United States? Washington, however, does not like the idea. Moreover, the American military is reluctant to include in the overall count its numerous medium-range missiles yet in U.S. territory. Nobody has any doubt, however, that these American missiles are intended for use in Europe rather than in the Western hemisphere.

The Soviet proposals concerning medium-range missiles in the European zone are no propaganda exercise, no attempt to outwit or outmaneuver the other side. The Soviet Union believes that the fulfillment of the new program for peace will help cut the Gordian knot of nuclear armaments in Europe and make this continent a safer place to live.

STATEMENTS BY U.S. OFFICIALS CAUSE CONCERN

PM221815 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 23 Jan 86 First Edition p 3

["TASS commentary for KRASNAYA ZVEZDA" by military observer V. Chernyshev: "Moscow's Realities and Washington's Illusions"]

[Text] The whole world is discussing the major foreign policy acts -- acts of tremendous, fundamental significance -- elaborated by the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and set forth in the statement by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. Bold, realistic, new in concept and radical in the measures proposed -- that is a summary of the assessment made of the large-scale Soviet program in statements by heads of state and government and prominent public figures.

The statement sets a truly great objective -- that of entering the third millenium without weapons of mass destruction. And this objective is not merely proclaimed. The pivot of the package of Soviet peace initiatives is a program -- timed and divided into specific stages -- for the complete elimination of nuclear weapons throughout the world, accompanied by an accord for a ban on the creation of space strike arms. Indian Prime Minister R. Gandhi gave an accurate characterization of this program: "The program put forward by the Soviet Union is an alternative to the arming of space, a quest for real ways of freeing the earth from nuclear weapons."

Quite naturally, it should be Washington which gives the first response to the new Soviet foreign policy acts, since it is the Soviet Union and the United States which should set an example for the other nuclear powers and start the process of nuclear disarmament.

In a conversation with correspondents in the White House, U.S. President R. Reagan was asked a number of questions about the package of Soviet proposals. "We are very grateful for this proposal. We are studying it extremely carefully..This is practically the first time that the true elimination of nuclear weapons has been proposed," the head of the U.S. Administration replied.

Without doubt the wide scale and multifaceted nature of the Soviet initiatives mean that some time is needed to analyze their substance and elaborate a detailed attitude toward them. The statements by official Washington spokesmen to the effect that Washington is studying in detail the program proposed by the Soviet Union are therefore of considerable significance. But, even now evasion on the proposals for preventing the creation [sozdaniye], testing, and deployment of space strike arms and on ending nuclear weapons tests is cause for concern.

Neither the White House chief nor the U.S. secretary of state have said a single word about these vital aspects of the Soviet initiatives.

And other official representatives of the U.S. Administration, without waiting for the examination of the package of Soviet proposals to be completed, have basically already started coming out against some of the proposals. "The priority which we attach to the 'Strategic Defense Initiative' is well known and remains fully in force," Defense Secretary C. Weinberger stated. The U.S. President "is wholly committed to SDI," he was echoed by White House deputy press secretary L. Speakes.

Again according to Speakes, the idea of a moratorium of U.S. nuclear tests is "approached with suspicion." "We consider it important for us to continue tests according to plan...At present we are carrying out a modernization of our systems, since Congress has approved the provisions of the President's program for the modernization of strategic arms, and tests are one element of modernization," the Pentagon chief replied.

Thus, the continuation of work under the "star wars" program, known as SDI, and the continuation of the modernization of strategic arms -- that is what Washington continues to insist on. At the same time they stubbornly put forward the idea that the U.S. Administration supposedly "advocates the total destruction of nuclear arms."

"If the U.S. Administration, as it has repeatedly stated, is committed to the goal of completely eliminating nuclear weapons everywhere, it is being given a practical opportunity to actually do just that," the statement by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, stresses. "Instead of spending the next 10-15 years creating new weapons in space, which are extremely dangerous for mankind and are allegedly intended to make nuclear arms unnecessary, is it not more sensible to tackle the destruction of these arms themselves -- and ultimately, reduce them to zero? The Soviet Union, I repeat, proposes precisely this course."

Throughout the world people have been drawing attention precisely to the fact that the large-scale Soviet program involves comprehensive measures designed to immediately begin halting the nuclear arms race, preventing the militarization of space, generally reducing the danger of war, increasing trust, and strengthening international security. The Soviet Union proposes that we enter the third millennium without nuclear weapons on the basis of mutually acceptable and strictly monitored accords, the U.S. newspaper LOS ANGELES TIMES has written. The proposals put forward by the Soviet leader offer a practical opportunity to actually set about doing this.

However, people in the world have also been drawing attention to something else. Administration staffers have been particularly worried, THE WASHINGTON POST has stressed, by the reiteration of the Soviet demand for a ban on the development [razrabotka], testing, and deployment of space strike arms. Soviet leader M.S. Gorbachev has issued a striking challenge to the United States, the U.S. NBC television company noted. He has proposed a phased plan aimed at the total elimination of nuclear weapons. He has stated that the Soviet Union will stop nuclear tests forever if Washington joins the moratorium.

The United States, however, the television company noted, is not ready to forsake the "star wars" program. Indeed, statements by Washington figures like Weinberger and Speakes thus far indicate that some people in the U.S. Administration are flatly opposed to abandoning "star wars." After all, Weinberger has repeatedly "explained" his creed: While creating [sozdavoya] a space ABM defense, the United States will also have a powerful "strategic triad" for delivering a crushing nuclear strike.

And the Pentagon chief's subordinates Perle and Cooper have "explained" Washington's military policy even more bluntly: Even after the creation [sozdaniye] of a large-scale ABM system with space-based elements, the "nuclear deterrent forces" will remain "the basis of security"; there is no "possibility of obviating the need for offensive missiles by implementing any ABM program" in the "foreseeable future." Thus, it is not in the least the destruction of nuclear weapons which concerns them. Quite the opposite. That is precisely why the Pentagon so needs to continue nuclear tests.

Now that the Soviet Union has proposed a concrete, realistic program for eliminating nuclear armaments, Washington's illusions and its "arguments" -- its claims that space nuclear weapons are needed to destroy ballistic missiles -- appear particularly groundless and completely fall apart. The Paris newspaper LIBERATION wrote the other day: "R. Reagan proposes removing the threat of nuclear arms by creating [sozdaniye] a space umbrella. M.S. Gorbachev answers him by proposing a much simpler and less costly solution -- the complete elimination of that kind of armament." The new Soviet peace initiative, the West German newspaper SUEDDEUTSCHE ZEITUNG has stressed, is essentially a touchstone testing Washington's desire for disarmament.

GORBACHEV PROPOSALS MEANT FOR ALL STATES

PM221548 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 21 Jan 86 First Edition p 1

[Nikolay Shishlin commentary under the rubric "Into the 21st Century Without Weapons": "What Europe Can Do" -- first three paragraphs are editorial introduction]

[Text] The editorial bureau has just received the following dispatch:

Paris, 20 Jan TASS -- The Paris newspaper LE QUOTIDIEN DE PARIS states that the Soviet proposals contained in M.S. Gorbachev's statement have attracted the attention of West Europeans and that the prime minister of Greece, which is a NATO member, has called them positive.

We asked Nikolay Shishlin, the well-known Soviet international journalist, to comment on this report.

Similar reports have recently been arriving from virtually all corners of the globe. After all, the statement by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, was addressed not only to the countries of America and Europe, but essentially to the entire world. The tasks posed in it are problems for all mankind. However, it is understandable why pride of place is being given to the statement in Europe: This is a continent where neighboring countries have different sociopolitical systems, the line of confrontation NATO and the Warsaw Pact is drawn there, and gigantic stockpiles of weapons are accumulated there. By dint of precisely these circumstances, Europe has no right to play a passive role in the great cause of ridding the world of nuclear arms. The countries of the continent have come through the mincer of two world wars. But they have also been through the political school of the seventies, when the concept of detente was born in Europe.

The statement poses the most specific problem of the day -- the elimination of nuclear arms. What can Europe do here? If it is a question of strategic offensive arms, the lion's share is held by the Soviet Union and the United States. The same is true of medium-range means. But there is a substantial rider: Europe is the home of two other nuclear powers apart from the Soviet Union -- Britain and France. They will have their part to play too.

Europe also has to play its part in regard to the "Strategic Defense Initiative." It is no secret that the Washington creators of this idea are making considerable efforts to involve their allies in the implementation of the "star wars" program.

And if the European powers are imbued with a recognition of their responsibility for their own decisions and if the concept of the discipline of reason -- the discipline of the nuclear age, if you like -- replaces NATO discipline, this would naturally influence the strategic situation in the world.

It does not follow from M.S. Gorabchev's statement, as some people are trying to read into it, that the Soviet Union is trying to wrench Western Europe away from the United States and striving to split the NATO bloc. We approach the questions of the situation in Europe realistically. We take account of the existence of NATO and the "Common market" and of the close socioeconomic links between Western Europe and the United States. But the Europeans have common interests that do not necessarily run counter to the socialist countries' interests. These are primarily to reduce and destroy the heaps of weapons that have taken shape on the European Continent.

We could be reproached for repeating Reagan's notorious "zero option" in our proposal to eliminate medium-range means in Europe. However, the similarities are merely superficial. First, the Soviet Union sees the question of these arms in the context of the overall task of ridding the world of both strategic and tactical nuclear weapons. Second, Reagan's proposal left the British and French nuclear forces out of the equation altogether. But Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev's statement speaks of the need to prevent their buildup and to eliminate them. The statement convincingly shows that we in the Soviet Union are thinking of security for all states -- large, medium, and small. It is in breaking down the old stereotype that see the world as an arena for struggle between the nuclear "superpowers" that Europe can play its own outstanding role.

INITIATIVE DEMONSTRATES SOVIET DESIRE FOR PEACE

LD212132 Moscow TASS in English 1836 GMT 21 Jan 86

[Text] Moscow, January 21 TASS -- Willpower and courage are needed so as to live in peace in our nuclear age disillusioned about oaths of peacefulness and corrupted by ever more vicious methods of homicide, Vladimir Lomeyko writes in LITERATURNAYA GAZETA today. What is also needed is the ability to rise above the contradictions of policy and ideas, to glance further than the differences characteristic of the present day in order to see new horizons and new shores of cooperation. What is greatly required here is rising above national selfishness, tactical calculations, differences and disputes, whose significance is nothing compared to the preservation of what is most valuable -- peace and a safe future.

The Soviet Union has not only proclaimed this but also demonstrated this in reality by addressing a call to all peoples and governments to embark as early as this year on the stage-by-stage ridding the earth of nuclear weapons.

Giving priority to the elimination of nuclear arms, the Soviet Union also declares that transfer of the arms race to space is impermissible, that it is necessary to eliminate chemical weapons in this century and to ban the development of non-nuclear weapons based on new physical principles whose destructive capacity is close to that of nuclear arms. Our civilisation must reject the philosophy of slaughter. The Soviet plan appeals to mankind's conscience, the author writes. The USSR suggests disarmament for development, and this means butter for the hungry, instead of cannons, this means new forests and pure lakes instead of missiles.

The Soviet Union's approach to the solution of global problems of the present is permeated with the confidence in human reason and solidarity. The common responsibility of people to the present and succeeding generations for the destiny of the earth requires a new level of thinking compatible with the swift changing of life.

'TOP PRIORITY' EXAMINES GORBACHEV INITIATIVE

LD171654 Moscow in English to North America 0001 GMT 17 Jan 86

["Top Priority" program presented by Vladimir Posner with Dr Radomir Bogdanov and Dr Sergey Plekhanov of the U.S. and Canada Studies Institute of the USSR Academy of Sciences]

[Excerpts] Hello, and welcome to "Top Priority." On the panel with me today as usual are Doctors Radomir Bogdanov and Sergey Plekhanov of the U.S. and Canada Studies Institute. This week "Top Priority" focuses on the statement of the General Secretary of the Soviet Communist Party Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev. Basically, what that statement says is that in three stages -- that is by the year 2000 -- we will do away with all nuclear weapons. We will have a nuclear-free world -- of course, if we all do it together. Now, let's take a closer look at what that statement says. Now who'd like to begin? Dr Bogdanov?

[Bogdanov] You know, I would like to be very frank with you, Vladimir. I am very moved, even more, I am very touched. Why? You know last year was rather a difficult year and we have a lot of hopes for the next year. And some people say it's a tiger [as heard] year, you know, year of happiness, year of success, year of many, many good things.

Now, I believe that the real events that happened really, is something very challenging for all of us [as heard]. What the general secretary suggests, what he proposes, is very challenging. It's a real and comprehensive plan for nuclear disarmament and the strongest point of that plan is that it takes into consideration all the worries of the other side, of America and Western Europe, and it settles a lot of problems which were stumbling blocks for disarmament for so many years.

Now, as I understand the statement, as I have studied it, you know, all these problems have been resolved in a very constructive, very productive way. What I mean by that -- I would like to begin not with the beginning, but in the middle or in the end.

You know, now you hear a lot of hue and cry about verification, and people say that, you know, you may have very good ideas, you may have very good suggestions, but we cannot trust you, we cannot verify, we cannot do this and that. And you know, they were concentrating on practically on one point -- on-site inspection: If you don't allow on-site inspection then things will not move. Now, at every stage of the plan he has presented, you have on-site inspection. Rather, you have a more comprehensive set of verification measures: national means of verification; international -- let me remind you -- international control, and on-site inspection. So, you have a combination of very effective measures now to verify: To verify what? To verify the plan of nuclear disarmament, which consists of three stages.

We will discuss that, I believe, with our listeners not only once, but may be many times and we ask for, [word indistinct], we request you to come back to that if you invite us another time to discuss it. We would like to discuss it many times really because it's a very, very, very moving, very touching, its very human [as heard]. And we would like to share with our American listeners our views on that, you know, how we perceive it, how we understand it, and all that. And what comes to my mind, you know, is, if you ask me, what is really striking in that, I would say, its realism. It's a realistic, a very realistic plan, you know, very realistic plan.

[Posner] Now, what the general secretary proposes, as we know, is to do away with nuclear weapons in three stages and by the year 2000. And some people might say that that is pie in the sky, that it is not realistic. And we might recall Einstein's famous quote to the effect that when we split the atom everything changed except man's way of thinking.

So I'd like to return to this idea of realism. Do you think that this can really be achieved, Dr Plekhanov?

[Plekhanov] I think that it must be achieved. You mentioned many plans for disarmament. (?Well), in the first place the nuclear age is only 40 years old and in that age there have been, I think, two or three times when nuclear disarmament was proposed. Now we are at a situation when, number one, we have behind us a decade and a half of practical arms control -- two major agreements signed and several other agreements also in effect -- and that gives both sides enough experience to continue dealing with the subject on a bilateral basis. And at the same time it shows that something more radical is necessary than just constructing something to regulate the arms race. We must really stop it. Another important thing is that the nuclear parity now is very stable, there is no way that either side can hope to overturn it. No "star wars," no other program, new military program, that can be devised, can realistically upset the existing nuclear parity. And then I think another important factor is that the U.S. Government, in the last, maybe 2 years, for the first time accepted, if only rhetorically -- I hope that it's not just rhetorically -- the idea that doing away with nuclear weapons was a good idea. President Reagan thinks that he's all for liberating the earth from nuclear weapons. He wants to do it via SDI. We think that this is not a good way to do it, that it can only spoil the situation. But this is an argument over means. If President Reagan is in good faith then we show an agreement between two sides that we can do away with nuclear weapons.

[Posner] Now General Secretary Gorbachev has said that, why develop SDI as a means of doing way with nuclear weapons instead of simply doing away with nuclear weapons -- this is exactly what he proposes to do in three stages. Now, what strikes you, Dr Bogdanov, as the most or some of the most unexpected -- powerful, if you wish -- proposals that reflect what General Secretary Gorbachev said when he alluded to people having to rise above national egoism in this area of disarmament?

[Bogdanov] You know, I would like to call the attention of our listeners over there, that actually we have two plans. We should admit that there is an American plan how to deal with the nuclear weapons and my friend Sergey just mentioned that SDI -- Americans, or President Reagan claim -- is to get rid of nuclear weapons, build the first defense shield...

[Posner, interrupting] A real pie in the sky.

[Bogdanov] What is real pie in the sky [words indistinct] to make nuclear weapons obsolete. And General Secretary Gorbachev said: Why should [as heard] wait 10 or 15 years for building SDI, then, after 10 or 15 years when the (?thing is), just to go ahead with getting rid of nuclear weapons? It's really illogical. It sounds very silly, I'm sorry to say that. If we can start it by real liquidation of nuclear arms, why we should first to spend not only time, but to spend billions of billions of dollars or rubles, whatever it is, on building this shield?

Number two [as heard]: Now, if you study our proposals, they're really striking and they're really going beyond national ego or, if you like, national interests. For instance, look at the solution we proposed for Western Europe. We proposed, what we suggest, is just to get rid of INF [Intermediate Nuclear Forces] from American and Soviet sides. For America it's a very different problem, INF in Europe. America is distanced from Europe by something like 10-12,000 km; for us INF is strategic weapon which can reach our cities, our capital in a couple of minutes. So, as a target for that we have all the right to worry; not only to worry, but to take countermeasures. We go beyond that. We say okay, we are ready to deal with that in a very revolutionary way. No INF for you, no INF for us. We have in mind medium-range missiles, you know.

[Posner] And we discount the French and English potential?

[Bogdanov] Oh yes, we say that; provided that French and English nuclear potential is not enhanced, is not increased, you know. So, if you come down to the whole history of nuclear weapons in Europe, how it was done, how we dealt with that -- I mean both of us, we are Americans -- you will see that our proposal is a really revolutionary -- not only in the way of doing it, but in the way of thinking about it [sentence as heard]. You know, that's why I believe that this call for new thinking, for going beyond national egos has really been realized in that statement.

[Posner] Wouldn't you agree that, along the same lines, the decision to prolong our unilateral moratorium on all nuclear tests is also going beyond national egoism and perhaps even national interests?

[Plekhanov] Well, of course. The United States has tested more nuclear weapons than we have. And when we refrain from testing while the other side does, it's not an easy thing to do because there is a point beyond which you know, forbearance ceases to be a virtue, as Edmund Burke once put it. So it is an important step and I'm all for it: I think it's a wise measure that we have extended our moratorium for another 3 months. It applies pressure to the Reagan administration, but pressure in a good way -- not done in order to extract some unilateral concessions from the other side or to drive the other side into a corner. It's nothing like that, it's simply an invitation to really take a serious look at what's going on with this business of testing nuclear weapons. And of course it's going beyond the national ego: It's looking forward and looking after international interests.

[Posner] You know, I'm somewhat concerned, I must say in all frankness as a Soviet citizen, about one thing. Is there not a danger that this decision, this proposal, might be misread by Washington as a sign of weakness, as a sign of the Soviet Union's backing down on the subject? It might be misinterpreted and encourage the more hawkish right-wing element, hardline element in the United States to take a totally opposite kind of view and ultimately, action. What do you think about that?

[Bogdanov] You know, Vladimir, I'm of -- if you like -- of high opinion of our adversary or of our counterparts over this. I've been dealing with United States for the last 25 years professionally and I come to the conclusion that they have very smart people and there are smart people in this administration, people with real understanding what Soviet Union is up to and how we are really (?strong). I agree at the same time that, of course, there are people in this administration which may think along the lines you have mentioned just now. But, you know, if the other side is really (?aiming) at achieving what our leaders talked about in Geneva, they have very good opportunity both ways. Number one, to make a real gesture to convince us and convince the public opinion in the world that they really mean it: the (?peacefulness), peaceful (?end). And number two, they understand, and on their professional and expert-like level, they understand that if a country is risking, if you like, to throw on the table such a comprehensive set of proposals with such far-reaching consequences (?and results), first of all, it means that the other side is very well sure of itself, in the long [word indistinct] to produce such a set of proposals. That's the number one conclusion.

[Posner] You're saying that this is a sign of strength?

[Bogdanov] Oh yes, Vladimir, it's a sign of strength...

[Posner, interrupting] And self-confidence?

[Bogdanov] And self-confidence, because -- and that's by the way [words indistinct] human relations -- you know, weaker, you are more vocal, you are, you know...

[Posner] You're absolutely right.

[Bogdanov] So that's my point.

[Posner] Very good point, indeed. Well now, the basics of this proposal: nuclear disarmament in three stages, of course, a test ban on all nuclear tests, verification at all levels, ceasing the production of chemical weapons and then destroying them completely, and coming out of the next 15 years to a world that will be free of the danger of war and of weapons of mass annihilation. This kind of thinking obviously cannot but be attractive to any human being, any (?living), normal human being. My question: Do you think this message is going to get through to the American people?

[Bogdanov] That's where I have my doubts, Vladimir, to be frank with you, you know, and my doubts are based on the previous experience. Let's come back to the moratorium business. You know, recently I met a number of my American friends and colleagues and they were really amazed how this very important fact was distorted by this administration (?in the) way that they give all the (?bad) just to influence the mass media under the pretext of the so-called national interest, just to kill this important news, you know. Because they were going [word indistinct] around and telling people in Washington and mass media in the other places that it's nothing but a propaganda ploy, propaganda ploy. So as far as I know, the American public opinion is not really informed about Soviet moratorium; Vladimir and Sergey, you will be amazed that even some American journalists in Moscow who are supposed to know all that, they don't know all that.

[Plekhanov] Well, at any rate I think that this is test for mass media in the United States. Right now they're confronted with a major, major development in the nuclear age. For the first time we have a real chance of moving towards complete nuclear disarmament. If they kill this news, if they underrate it, if they compromise it by, you know, a treatment like well, this is just a propaganda ploy, if they simply not, fail to report it objectively, then they will do a great disservice to the American people.

[Posner] I think there's more to it than that. I would also think that any administration that would ignore or try to write off this offer risks becoming isolated internationally. I have that feeling. Now maybe I'm wrong, but I think that the people the world over will gradually -- would in that case -- gradually indeed come to see who is for what and who has what to offer. Would you like to say anything more on this issue, gentlemen?

[Plekhanov] Well, I would like to stress one point. One argument against nuclear disarmament has always been that the Soviet Union really has an edge in conventional armaments and so the United States cannot enforce nuclear disarmament. Now this point has also been taken into consideration and Comrade Gorbachev's proposal contains as one of its provisions a movement forward in the area of conventional arms reduction. Now as our listeners may know, there are talks in Vienna and on the mutual balanced force reduction in Europe. There has been some progress in those talks where the Warsaw Pact and NATO countries are represented. Those are not just bilateral talks. They are multilateral talks. And at the same time, there are some differences in approach and mostly they have to do with the problems of verification. And the Gorbachev proposal now marks a major movement forward in that area as well, so that in the year 1986 we could really conclude agreement on the mutual balanced force reduction in Europe and we are prepared to go further there to reduce the existing level. The Soviet Union has proposed repeatedly that we can reduce the existing level of conventional arms. So the problem of conventional arms cannot serve as an obstacle to nuclear disarmament. We must move on both fronts.

[Posner] Before saying goodbye, I would like to sum up my feelings about what has happened.

I recall that shortly before the end of the year in our last program, we spoke about the outlook for 1986 and while we did voice hope, as we all do as human beings, we were also not so overboard with joy. We were thinking about a great many difficulties and how things indeed would develop. What with this particular statement by the general secretary of the Soviet Communist Party Central Committee, I think that humanity has good reason to look forward with a high measure of hope provided, of course, that (?this) proposal is accepted and understood by the West. Having said that I would like to thank Dr Bogdanov, Dr Plekhanov; say goodbye to our audience until next week.

KENNAN EXEMPLIFIES CHANGING U.S. ATTITUDES

PM161633 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 17 Jan 86 Morning Edition p 5

[Vikentiy Matveyev "Political Observer's Opinion": "Changing Thinking"]

[Text] The reference point calling for action on the part of all governments and all people of goodwill -- the destruction of weapons of mass annihilation -- is acquiring specific contours and is being placed on a practical footing. That is the historical purport and significance of what is said in the statement by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

The unceasing, hard worldwide struggle for a guaranteed future for our planet is scaling new heights. For over 4 decades now nuclear weapons have been stockpiled. This causes alarm and concern among an increasing number of people, including the big bourgeoisie camp in the West. The 1 and 1/2 decades remaining to the year 2000 can, MUST [uppercase word published in capitals] become a breakthrough, a turning point toward man's liberation from the arsenals of mass death and total destruction.

This accords with the thoughts and aspirations of the world community in the fullest, most exhaustive sense of the word. Every day new voices are added to the voices of alarm and reason. A few days ago George Kennan, the patriarch of Washington's postwar diplomacy, issued one more call for reason on the pages of an influential U.S. newspaper. The change in his views is characteristic of the shaping of a new way of thinking among those people in the West who used to take the hardest, even a bellicose, stance, but who now -- fully aware of what exactly has been staked on the card of war and peace -- are expressing themselves from positions of personal and general human responsibility for the present and future.

Kennan's voice is in many ways notable and characteristic of the underlying processes of rethinking several formerly standard, ossified concepts and views among the top stratum of society in the United States and other Western countries.

George Kennan's name is well known not only in his own country, in the United States. His books are in the libraries of other countries and his articles are read and published in various languages. It would perhaps be difficult to find a scholar, former diplomat and journalist in the United States right now with such extensive, broad experience in these spheres. He was the first U.S. diplomat to visit our country in an official capacity: In 1933 in connection with the U.S. -- very much delayed -- establishment of diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union.

He served his class loyally and became U.S. ambassador to the Soviet Union just after the war. In this capacity, he contributed to stoking the "cold war," which he later regretted -- in his memoirs. The turning point which caused him to revise his views was 1949, when our country, coming up against the frenzied nuclear arms race in the United States, assimilated the production of its own nuclear weapons for exclusively defensive purposes.

This news had a sobering effect on Kennan, who was a member of Washington's "brain trust." He began to express himself in favor of a political, peaceful solution of vexing problems with our country. He immediately found himself "persona non grata." He was immediately moved from the political arena, but the further he was moved the more his conviction strengthened that the normal development of Soviet-U.S. relations is vitally necessary for the sake of the national interests of the United States itself. Under President Kennedy, G. Kennan served as ambassador to Yugoslavia and then engaged in scholarly activity and journalism. He continues to work in this field to this day.

Among the influential figures whose statements are heeded by the public in the United States and other Western countries, Kennan is not the only one to have looked back on the steps he has taken and their results and to have belatedly grieved over the blunders he has made and the errors he has committed. We can point to Henry Kissinger, for instance. Finding himself unemployed after leaving his post as U.S. secretary of state, in a retrospective analysis of the actions of the administration in which he had served, he regretted being among those who in the early seventies "okayed" the creation of missiles with multiple warheads. "I regret," Kissinger said, "that I did not think through at the time what a world armed with these warheads would become."

But in contrast to the former State Department chief, Kennan acts far more consistently and explicitly in opposing the arms race, particularly the nuclear arms race. He is old. That does not hinder, but, on the contrary, lends more weight to his statements on a key theme which, it may be said without exaggeration, perturbs the broadest strata of people throughout the world.

Early this year another compatriot of Kennan -- and a considerably younger one -- Senator G. Hart, quoted the following words of General Omar Bradley, spoken in 1957, when, as is well known, weapons arsenals were considerably below present-day levels: "We (that is the Americans) have corrupted our intellect by creating scientific means of destruction such that we are threatened with the desperate danger of destroying ourselves... The time will come when we will be able to do little except live in alarm, suppressing our fear beneath the thickening shadow of death."

On the basis of the lessons of history, looking ahead many thinking Americans in our day are demonstrating not futility or fatalism in their approach to the key problems of the present day and primarily, the problem of war and peace, but vigor and the resolve to seek a fundamental normalization of the international atmosphere.

From this viewpoint it is meaningful to dwell on George Kannan's article just published in the U.S. newspaper NEWSDAY. It contains a look at the past and the future. Recalling the years he spent in our country as a diplomat at the end of World War II, the author writes that "the destruction over a substantial part of Russia's territory had to be seen to be believed." The victory opened up the prospect which had long been awaited, for which people had fought. "The entire Russian people felt the need for peace and were gripped with the desire for peace."

What does Kennan write about the present day? The arms race is what poses the most terrible danger in the contemporary world. "We must recognize," the author concludes, "that the sources of our troubles and of the dangers threatening us are to a considerable degree" unconnected with the Soviet Union. "And some of them even lie within ourselves," that is within U.S. policy. "Above all, the Americans must learn in which aspects to restrain themselves: This includes the damage we are causing to the environment, our tendency not to live according to our means and to run up catastrophic debts, our obvious inability to reduce the colossal budget deficit..."

As for Soviet-U.S. relations, this is Kennan's firm conviction: "Although there are serious political differences between the two countries, there is no unresolved political issue between them which might prompt them to start a Soviet-U.S. war or which could be resolved with the aid of any major military conflict of this nature."

And last, but not least. "It is perfectly clear to me," the author notes, "that the Soviet leaders do not want war with us and are not planning to start a war. In particular, I have never believed that their interests require the military seizure of Western Europe or that they might attack that region in the postwar decades, even if the so-called concept of 'nuclear deterrence' did not exist."

An increasing number of people in the world, including prominent politicians and public figures in the West, refuse to tolerate the idea of the "inevitability" of the endless buildup of the most devastating and destructive weapons. One U.S. wit observed that if the cost of military supplies in the United States continue to grow at the present rate, by the year 2000 the country's entire military budget will be used to purchase a single super bomber!

Another fact which AP reported in August last year from Rarotonga in the Cook Islands: A poster pinned to a coconut palm near an office in the settlement voices the attitude of the Pacific Ocean countries to nuclear weapons: "If they are safe, station them in Washington, store their waste in Tokyo, and test them in Paris"...

Thus, even the smallest countries are categorically against "experimental" bombs being exploded underwater, underground, or in the air.

The waves of the antiwar, antinuclear movement spread from the banks of the Potomac to the atolls of the Pacific Ocean. They break with ever increasing force against the Pentagon walls. It is impossible to fail to notice this. "Is there still room in our world for heroic feats?" a Belgian magazine asked. Indeed there is. The curbing of the arms race would be the greatest feat of mankind.

FOREIGN MINISTRY HOLDS PRESS BRIEFING 21 JAN

LD211622 Moscow TASS in English 1620 GMT 21 Jan 86

["Briefing at Press Center of Soviet Foreign Ministry" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, January 21 TASS -- Like most U.N. member states, the Soviet Union believes it imperative to take urgent action to improve the situation in the world, first of all to exclude use of force from state-to-state relations, said Vladimir Morozov, deputy head of the Press Department of the Foreign Ministry of the USSR. He was making a statement at a briefing at the ministry's press center here today in connection with the 9th session of the special committee on enhancing the effectiveness of the principle of non-use of force in international relations, which opened in New York on January 20.

"We proceed from the inadmissibility of a power-politics approach to international affairs, which is based on purely egoistic interests," the spokesman for the Soviet Foreign Ministry said. "Making the ban on use of force effective to the maximum is a most important prerequiste of ensuring reliable security in the nuclear-space age. The only right way to lasting peace is through renouncing use of, or the threat of using, force as a means of resolving international disputes."

The special committee's work has confirmed that the vast majority of states are unanimously in favor of effective measures to enhance the effectiveness of the principle of non-use of force, even if they suggest different forms that these measures can take. A number of non-aligned countries and some Western states have said it would be desirable to adopt a declaration on non-use of force.

Taking their position into account, the Soviet Union has agreed to the committee starting to work out a declaration on non-use of force in international relations as an intermediate stage on the way to drafting a world treaty on non-use of force, the Soviet Foreign Ministry's spokesman said. This instruction is set forth in Resolution 40/70 passed by the 40th session of the U.N. General Assembly. "In our opinion, hammering out and adopting a declaration which would reaffirm and amplify the principle of non-use of force and point out the need for an unconditional ban on use of any weapons, nuclear or conventional, could become a tangible contribution to improving the the international situation."

"We are convinced," Vladimir Morozov said, "that the problems the special committee deals with are vitally important in the present international situation to all states, big or small, without exception, regardless of whether they have or do not have nuclear arms."

By working out a declaration on non-use of force, the special committee would make headway in discharging the task entrusted to it by the General Assembly of completing work to draw up a world treaty on non-use of force in international relations and thereby to create barriers to use of force and improve conditions for achieving accords on arms limitation and reduction, the spokesman for the Soviet Foreign Ministry said in conclusion.

Answering journalists' questions, he said that the task of the world treaty on non-use of force in international relations is to concretize and specify the principle of non-use of force and make it a mandatory legal instrument in international relations. At the same time he said that the United States and a number of other countries are opposed to concluding such a treaty. Washington, which maintains a "positions-of-strength" policy; is clearly not interested in the principle of non-use of force becoming sealed in international law.

The newsmen attending the briefing were also acquainted with Soviet proposals on the principles of a Cyprus settlement and ways of achieving it.

SWEDEN'S PALME CHAIRS DISARMAMENT COMMITTEE SESSION

PM211301 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 Jan 86 First Edition p 4

[Dispatch by unnamed own correspondent: "Work Completed"]

[Text] Delhi, 20 Jan -- The 3-day session of the independent commission on disarmament and security, also known as the Palme commission, has completed its work here. The session, in which political and public figures from various countries of Europe, Asia, Africa, and Latin America, including Soviet representatives, took part, examined questions of curbing the nuclear arms race and enhancing the role of the United Nations and problems of regional security. At the concluding press conference, Swedish Prime Minister Olof Palme, the chairman of the independent commission, noted that its sessions have taken place under the influence of the Soviet Union's recent proposals, which he called very important and far-sighted.

The final document of the commission's sessions says: "The commission welcomes the important statement made by General Secretary M.S. Gorbachev 15 January 1986 which presented a three-stage program for abolishing nuclear armaments by the year 2000. This farreaching and constructive statement, in the commission's opinion, should attract the most ardent attention. The commission urges both sides (the USSR and the United States) to reach an agreement in the very near future on specific steps with a view to halting the nuclear arms race."

Calling for the speediest attainment of an agreement on the total cessation of nuclear explosions, the commission believes that there are now no technical obstacles on the path of the implementation of verification of the observance of such agreements.

The United States and the Soviet Union, the statement notes, must reach an agreement in the very near future banning the development [razrabotka], testing, and deployment of armaments in space. It is in the spirit of the CPSU Central Committee general secretary's statement or in a formulation close to it that the commission examines other problems concerning banning or reducing chemical weapons, conventional armaments, and armed forces in Central Europe and the tasks of the talks under way on these questions in Geneva and Vienna.

GORBACHEV INITIATIVE WELCOMED BY FOREIGN LEADERS

LD190021 Moscow TASS in English 2322 GMT 18 Jan 86

[Text] Moscow, January 18 TASS -- TASS commentator Aleksandr Bokhonko writes:

Rajiv Gandhi, chairman of the Non-aligned Movement, prime minister of India, and Prime Minister Olof Palme of Sweden, who is now in Delhi, have highly appreciated the large-scale Soviet initiatives contained in the statement of Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. "The programme which has been put forward by the Soviet Union", Rajiv Gandhi pointed out, "is the alternative to a nuclear arms race in outer space. This is a search for real ways to rid the earth of nuclear weapons". According to Olof Palme, the USSR's decision to extend for three months the moratorium on any nuclear explosions "has given rise to new hope for stronger international peace".

It is noteworthy that this high appraisal has been expressed by the co-authors of the Delhi declaration of the six states. The declaration was signed a year ago, along with India and Sweden, by the leaders of Argentina, Mexico, Tanzania, and Greece. The call contained in the declaration to fully end the testing, production and deployment of nuclear weapons, as well as of space arms, has found reflection and received further development in the Soviet leader's statement.

The Soviet Union has suggested a truly innovatory and bold solution to the problem of ridding mankind of nuclear nightmare. Before the peoples of the whole world, there opens up a real prospect of entering the year 2000 without nuclear weapons which, according to Mikhail Gorbachev's proposal, should be eliminated fully and everywhere in three stages in the course of 15 years, the Soviet Union has also suggested eliminating chemical weapons, and extending for three months the unilateral moratorium on nuclear explosions. It is deeply symbolic that the Soviet Union's new peace drive has come about in the U.N. -designated International Year of Peace. Thus, the Soviet Union, setting an example to other countries, through concrete deeds proves its commitment to the cause of peace and peoples' security and to the removal of the danger of outbreak of a nuclear conflict. The current preparation in the United States for "star wars" is being countered by the USSR with another kind of war -- a war on nuclear and space arms and on such barbarous type of weapons as chemical ones.

There is yet another, not unimportant aspect of the Soviet programme for nuclear disarmament. It is addressed not only to the United States and other nuclear powers but to all peoples of the world as well. To the Soviet Union, as one of major Asian powers, the ensurance of security in Asia is of paramount importance. The proposal on the elimination of nuclear and chemical weapons is consonant with the sentiments of the peoples of the Asian continent to whom the problem of security is no less keen than to other peoples. Suffice it to recall demands by India and by the other littoral states for making the Indian Ocean a zone of peace, for demilitarising the ocean area and for eliminating the U.S. military bases stationed there. The realisation of the Soviet proposals would make it possible basically to change the situation in Asia for the better, would rid the peoples of the continent of fear of nuclear and chemical weapons, would raise security in the region to a qualitatively new level, and would make it more effective. In this sense the Soviet programme is the USSR's contribution to the joint search by Asian states for a comprehensive approach to forming a collective security system in the Asian Continent. The Soviet programme for a nuclear-free world meets the aspirations of all the peoples.

ZHOLKVER VIEWS NATO EXERCISES IN WEST GERMANY

LD220050 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1840 GMT 21 Jan 86

[Aleksandr Zholkver commentary from the "International Diary" program presented by Vitaliy Sobolev]

[Text] Major NATO military exercises have begun in West Germany. I shall ask our political observer Aleksandr Zholkver to talk about their aims and importance:

First of all, I must note that NATO armed forces exercises take place in the FRG every year, and the current ones are called "Reforger-86." This time, however, the particularly large number of troops and amount of equipment planned to take part in the maneuvers is most noteworthy -- 73,000 soldiers and 21,000 tanks and armored transports. Additional units of the U.S. and Canadian armies are being specially moved to West Germany for this purpose. Moreover, units of the Bundeswehr will be brought into action during the maneuvers.

By the way, another set of military exercises is beginning today, on the territory of Canada. U.S. cruise missiles will be flight-tested there. The Pentagon does not conceal that Canadian territory has been chosen as the testing ground because its terrain and climate are reminiscent of the northern regions of the USSR.

How are all of these facts to be assessed? They can only be assessed as the striving of certain circles in the United States to acquire military superiority over the USSR. This is confirmed by NATO's latest military plan as eleborated by U.S. General Rogers, its commander in chief. Excerpts from this plan, which is on the whole a secret one, have just appeared on the pages of THE WASHINGTON POST. It is plainly stated there that the Rogers plan envisages the deployment in Western Europe of modernized nuclear systems.

Let me remind you that as far back as 1979 the United States announced its intention to install [ustanovit] 572 of its nuclear missiles in West European NATO countries; 108 Pershings have already been delivered to the FRG. U.S. cruise missiles with nuclear warheads are being added to those in West Germany, Britain, Italy, and also in Belgium and Holland. These are the very same cruise missiles that are now being tested over Canada.

Moreover, judging from what THE WASHINGTON POST has published, the Rogers plan also aims to transfer the testing of nuclear shells for NATO artillery units to Western Europe. I also add that major stockpiles of U.S. chemical weapons are also located on the territory of the FRG. A few days ago THE NEW YORK TIMES, quoting officials in Washington, confirmed that the administration is seeking the production of a new chemical weapon. Last but not least, let me note that, during the discussion of the U.S. draft budget for the next fiscal year, starting on 1 October, expenditure on the program for creating [sozdaniye] space weapons has been left untouched, and this year it will already amount to $2.75 billion.

No matter what type of weapon one looks at, therefore, one can see everywhere the U.S. effort to increase them. As Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev's statement points out, however, the pursuit of the impossible dream of military superiority is a fruitless and dangerous policy. In our nuclear and space age, it is time to give stone-age thinking, when the main concern was to provide oneself with a bigger club and a heavier stone.

Now major scientists and politicians, in particular those who a few days ago held a routine session in the Indian capital of the so-called Independent Commission on Disarmament and Security, are stressing that genuine security in our time and the survival of all mankind can be ensured only by curbing the arms race. It is precisely by such striving that the major new peace initiatives put forward by our country and set out in Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev's statement are dictated.

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA VIEWS NATO CONVENTIONAL WAR PLANS

PM211123 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 17 Jan 86 First Edition p 3

[Article by Candidate of Military Sciences Colonel V. Alekseyev under the rubric "In the Imperialist States' Headquarters and Armies": "'Conventional' Wars in Pentagon and NATO Plans"]

[Text] The forces of militarism and aggression are preparing to unleash both nuclear and so-called conventional wars. A conference of NATO military-political organs held last December adopted decisions on implementing plans for the further buildup of the might of the bloc's allied armed forces. In 1986 along they received 900 new tanks and armored vehicles, hundreds of aircraft, dozens of warships, and much else.

During exercises and maneuvers, which are held with increasing intensity, plans for preparing for and waging offensive operations are rehearsed and more effective ways and means of using armed forces in modern warfare are sought. Recently new trends have emerged in the development of the views of the U.S. and NATO military-political leadership on the types, nature, goals, tasks, territorial [prostranstvennyy] scope, and conduct of conventional (no-nuclear) wars. Under the influence of the U.S. military strategy of "direct confrontation" there have also been changes in the view of conventional warfare among the NATO allies. Apart from limited wars the non-nuclear scenario is now seen as possible for waging a universal (world) war.

Universal conventional war is a new provision in U.S. military doctrine. It is planned to wage such a war simultaneously in all the main continental and ocean theaters. It can be unleashed deliberately and begun immediately by a large-scale clash between coalitions or as a consequence of the escalation of a local conflict (including between liberated countries) into an unlimited conflict in which the United States and the USSR, and NATO and the Warsaw Pact would be involved. The possibility of a universal conventional war erupting in Europe and being subsequently transferred to other theaters, where, according to the assessments of the U.S.-NATO command, "the enemy will be weaker and most vulnerable," is not ruled out. The main strategic aim, as arrogant as it is impossible, is to rout the socialist countries' armed forces, conquer their territories, and establish control over the population.

Conventional war in a theater of war (a "large non-nuclear war" in U.S. terminology). Currently this is seen first and foremost as a limited coalition war which would be waged in Europe, the Atlantic, the Near and Middle East, and other theaters of war. But the probability that it will escalate into a universal conventional war is being examined increasingly frequently. It is believed that a "large non-nuclear war" will be quite protracted and will require the spending of considerable resources not only by the United States but by its military alliance partners. In the European theater -- the main theater of war -- this type of war, in the schemes of U.S.-NATO strategists, would be unleashed given a tangible NATO superiority over the Warsaw Pact both in nuclear and conventional arms and also in general forces and under conditions of an alignment of political forces in the world favorable to the West.

The U.S. leadership claims that by the end of the eighties (as NATO troops are equipped with high-accuracy weapons, especially long-range intelligence-gathering and strike complexes) real prerequisites will have been created for the bloc to wage a long conventional war in Europe. Then, under the cover of its own "Eurostrategic" nuclear forces (the "small nuclear umbrella"), and U.S. strategic nuclear forces (the "large nuclear umbrella") of the NATO alliance, using only conventional strike means, will allegedly be able to achieve independently the military-political goals it has set itself in Europe. That means eliminating the socialist system in the Warsaw Pact's East European countries, considerably weakening the Soviet Union, and forcing it to give up the armed struggle on advantageous terms for the West. Here Washington is following first and foremost its own selfish interests based on illusory calculations -- limiting war to the European Continent in order to avoid a crushing retaliatory strike against U.S. territory itself.

Conventional war in theaters of military actions ("small-scale military conflict"). Such a war could be provoked by the West in any part of the world and could be waged with a view to seizing resource-rich and strategically important territories, removing progressive regimes, and suppressing national liberation movements. The Pentagon considers it possible for the NATO states to get involved in local military conflicts in which liberated countries situated in an area far from the United States and outside the "NATO zone of action" participate. This prospect increases the threat of a "small-scale military conflict" escalating from a limited theater of military actions to a larger-scale war that spreads to neighboring regions.

The so-called "low-intensity armed conflict doctrine," which envisages the execution of Grenada-type "gendarme" operations ousting governments in other countries that do not suit Washington, and so forth, is becoming increasingly well known in the United States. "Low intensity" is nothing other than a veil of words hiding dangerous aggressive aims. M. Klare, a prominent U.S. military observer, warns that this doctrine "will lead to a new round of military intervention in the Third World" as inexorably as the "doctrine of counterinsurgency actions" involved the United States in the Vietnam catastrophe in the past.

As is clear from foreign press reports on the practice of the operational and combat training of NATO's Allied Armed Forces and also on the experience of localized wars, the most likely means of launching conventional wars are: surprise attack by forward-based combat groupings in peace time; and moving onto the offensive after the mobilizational (partial or complete) deployment of troops with the aim of reinforcing the groupings already present in the theater of military actions. The choice of the means of launching war depends on the military-political and operational-strategic situation, the theater of military actions, the scale and aims of the war, and other factors. Surprise attack is considered the most effective means. It is backed up in peace time by the presence of extensive combat-ready strike-fire groupings capable of going onto the offensive without prior reinforcement and of successfully resolving preset tasks.

So as to occupy a more favorable operational-strategic position, the U.S. and NATO military leadership are implementing in Western Europe such measures as the relocation of a considerable proportion of their troops nearer to the GDR and CSSR borders: the expansion of the scale of joint and national maneuvers involving the actual deployment under field conditions of a large section of the divisions in the Central European theater of military actions; the maintenance of the organs and means of control at a high level of readiness; the buildup of material and technical stocks; and improvement of the infrastructure. In other words clear preconditions are being created to turn a surprise attack if not into the only means then at least into the main means of launching an aggressive war.

As the international situation gradually deteriorates it is planned to go over to the offensive after implementing measures for the full mobilizational deployment of troops. Reinforcements of manpower and material are shipped in from the United States, Britain, and Canada and the backup troops and forces of the European NATO countries are brought into readiness. In that event it will take at least 30 days to carry out the strategic deployment and organization of pwerful strike groupings capable of successfully resolving the tasks of initial offensive operations in the theater of war.

With the acute deterioration of the situation, the time needed for strategic deployment drops to 10 days or less. According to the views of U.S. and NATO strategists this time for the preparation of aggression is enough to ensure the optimum combination of the element of surprise and the strength of the strike. As Western press reports make clear, this option for launching war has been rehearsed very carefully at recent NATO Allied Armed Forces' exercises. There is a particularly dangerous and aggressive character distinguishing the major maneuvers codenamed "Autumn Forge," when powerful groupings of forces and facilities, including around 70 percent of the ground and air force divisions stationed in peace time in Central Europe, are actually deployed in the immediate vicinity of the Warsaw Pact states' borders. Reinforcements are brought in by air and sea from the United States, Britain, and Canada during the maneuvers.

The NATO concept of "follow-on force attack" (the so-called "Rogers plan" described by KRASNAYA ZVEZDA on 3 December 1985) envisages the simultaneous destruction of the enemy's groupings of forces across the entire depth of their operational-strategic formation by using the full arsenal of the latest combat facilities. Western military specialists stress that the implementation of this concept envisages transferring combat actions to enemy territory from the very beginning of the war and does not al all preclude the use of weapons of mass destruction.

NATO command believes that the transition to the first use of nuclear weapons will take place if the goals set prove unattainable by means of conventional combat facilities and also if the enemy threatens to rout the main groupings of the offensive forces.

As we can see, there is no doubt about the aggressive trend in the evolution of the U.S.-NATO command's views of the types of so-called conventional wars and the means of unleashing them.

For the sake of a turn for the better in the international arena, the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and the Soviet Government, the statement by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, says, have decided on a number of major and fundamental foreign policy actions. Along with removing mass destruction weaponry from states' arsenals, the USSR proposes that conventional arms and armed forces also be subject to agreed reductions. Measures called upon to ensure the creation of barriers in the way of the use of force and covert preparations for war -- be they on land, at sea, or in the air -- are also proposed. "In our opinion, particularly in the present situation," M.S. Gorbachev stated, "it is necessary to reduce the numbers of troops participating in major military exercises which must be notified in accordance with the Helsinki Final Act."

Until these measures are implemented the danger of imperialism launching aggression, military conflicts, and sundry provocations remains. That is why, as the draft new edition of the CPSU Program stresses, it is necessary to devote unremitting attention to strengthening the USSR's defense might and strengthening its security.

TASS REPORTS YUGOSLAV-GREEK COMMUNIQUE

LD172051 Moscow TASS in English 1003 GMT 17 Jan 86

[Text] Belgrade, January 17 TASS -- The results of the Soviet-American summit meeting in Geneva may become a positive step towards lessening international tensions and a search for the resolution of the disarmament problem. This is pointed out in the joint Yugoslav-Greek communique on the results of the official friendly visit to Yugoslavia of Andreas Papandreou, prime minister of Greece. He held talks with Radovan Vlajkovic, president of the collective Presidency of Yugoslavia, Vidoje Zarkovic, president of the Presidium of the Central Committee of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia, and Milka Planinc, president of the Federal Executive Council.

In the course of the meeting, the document says, special attention was devoted to the need for strengthening universal peace and security, ending the arms race, and to disarmament. In these terms the importance was pointed out of the process of detente, the significance of the Stockholm Conference on Confidence-and Security-Building Measures and Disarmament in Europe.

The sides pointed out the great significance attached by Yugoslavia and Greece to broadening cooperation in the Balkans and specially stressed their support for the initiatives directed at turning that region into a zone of peace, security and co-operation, free from nuclear weapons. In the present-day complex international situation, the communique points out, a significant role is to be played by the Non-aligned Movement, which makes an important contribution to preserving universal peace.

The communique stresses serious concern over the development in the Middle East and in the area of the Mediterranean, and points out the inadmissibility of the use of the threat of force against independent and sovereign states. Yugoslavia and Greece declare for the withdrawal of Israeli troops from all the occupied Arab territories, for the implementation of the inalienable rights of the people of Palestine and recognition of the Palestine Liberation Organization as its sole legitimate representative as well as the recognition of the right of all states in the region to independence, security and development.

The sides have condemned terrorism, which is in conflict with the norms of international relations. Both countries have expressed concern over the crisis situation in Cyprus jeopardizing peace and security in that area, voiced support for the efforts of the U.N. secretary-general for a just and lasting settlement of the Cyprus problem. The communique stresses the great role and significance of the United Nations organization in the fight for peace and security, for the independent development of all countries, all-round and equitable international cooperation. It was placed on record in the course of the talks, that friendly relations and mutually beneficial cooperation between Yugoslavia and Greece successfully develop in all fields.

U.S. BUDGET TO ESCALATE 'SMALL INTENSITY WARS'

LD230004 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 22 Jan 86

Vitaliy Sobolev Commentary

[Text] President Reagan, setting forth his views on the agenda of the session of Congress, which has resumed work, has stated that he will strive for new military assistance for Nicaraguan contras and the terrorist UNITA grouping in Angola. A latest news commentary with Vitaliy Sobolev at the microphone:

According to data in THE WASHINGTON POST newspaper, the administration wants to get $100 million for Somozists and $300 million for UNITA bands, that is, to increase allocations sharply for undeclared wars against the lawful governments of the two countries and to give these wars a qualitatively new character. Otherwise, as assured by U.S. legislators and representatives of the administration, the U.S. African and Central American mercenaries will be defeated. One ought to realize then that the build-up in expenditure for bloody interference in the affairs of young states is of a tactical and current nature. It is probably clear, however, to the legislators themselves that far-reaching strategic plans are hidden behind the White House's budget drafts.

Today's ruling Washington figures were threatening as far back as the preelection fight to take revenge for the defeats imperialism and neocolonialism suffered during the preceeding years. With that aim and having come to power, they have set about actively expanding the arsenal and troops intended for, using their language, conflicts of small intensity.

A special conference took place recently in Washington on these conflicts. Speaking at it, the defense secretary and the secretary of state once again talked about the right of the United States to punish and to pardon, mentioning in this connection, among other countries, Nicaragua and Angola. Their speeches were consistent with the spirit now popular in Washington, of the concept of new globalism, which declares the intervention in Grenada a model for actions on a global scale. At the moment the United States is conducting wars of small intensity through the hands of mercenaries. Escalation, that is, growth, goes along the line of allocations, deliveries of weapons, diplomatic and foreign policy means, and the secret service. And as we see, a financial basis is being laid for very grave escalations in the draft of the latest U.S. budget. Certain influential legislators, if we are to believe U.S. correspondents in the capital, are expressing readiness to move toward meeting the White House, if they are given a convincing explanation. Of course, only those who want it can be convinced by new globalist explanations that fundamentally contradict not only international law but also the tendencies springing up at the moment in the world for overcoming various problems and conflicts.

SPIRIT OF GENEVA 'ALARMS' COLD WAR ADVOCATES

LD222342 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 22 Jan 86

[Commentary by political observer Boris Kalyagin: "What Lies Behind the Doctrine of New Globalism?" -- from the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] Hello comrades:

The Pentagon chief Weinberger is deservedly reckoned to be one of the most zealous exponents of the interests of the U.S. military-industrial complex.

He again confirmed this speaking a few days ago in Washington at a conference on problems of so called low-intensity conflicts. Weinberger literally sang the praises of U.S. special purpose forces, having declared that the U.S. was still making insufficient use of their services. Not only that, the head of the Pentagon made claims this time to the role of theoretician with the task of substantiating the U.S. right to act in the international arena according to the laws of the highway.

Let us say directly that Weinberger's arguments are not distinguished by originality. Their idea amounts to the Soviet Union being behind every armed conflict in the world. If that is how it is, the United States is entitled to send its commandos to any part of the world. This argument evidently captivates the present Washington statesmen with its primordial simplicity; there is no need to go into any kind of socioeconomic or political analyses of developments. What about peoples' national-liberation struggles? The very concept brings about particular irritation in Weinberger. In his opinion, it is a misplaced description, specially disseminated by the Soviet Union. He suggests calling national-liberation wars low-intensity conflicts. Then everything becomes simpler. Does it not matter who is conducting the struggle and for what? It is easier to justify a U.S. invasion.

All these wretched attempts to theorize would perhaps cause nothing more than bewilderment, were they not backed by a fully practical program for expanding U.S. military intervention in the internal affairs of developing countries. Weinberger's big talk is the reaction of U.S. monopolist circles to progressive changes taking place in the world, their prescription for resolving regional problems. Washington has christened this aggressive concept the doctrine of new globalism. The armed provocation against Nicaragua, the undeclared war against Nicaragua, the undeclared war against Afghanistan, and lastly the hostile campaign against Libya have already become its practical incarnations. These acts so clearly infringe on the universally recognized norms of international law that even many of Washington's close allies refuse to follow its example.

Anxiety in the world is also caused by the U.S. decision to aggravate regional problems after the Soviet-U.S. meeting in Geneva. Apparently the spirit of Geneva alarms the advocates of the cold war course. They would like to wreck the opportunities for strengthening detente. Such policies in no way tie in with the U.S. President's words spoken in his New Year's address to the Soviet people that a safe and lasting peace requires finding peaceful ways to resolve armed conflicts. It is about time to erect not in words but in deeds the structure resting on the foundations laid down in Geneva.

SEAMAN MEDVID ON 'TRUMPED UP' STORY OF ESCAPE

LD221732 Moscow TASS in English 1711 GMT 22 Jan 86

[Text] Lvov, January 22 TASS -- "Rumours about my death are greatly exaggerated", Miroslav Medvid, an electric motor mechanic of the Soviet motorship "Marshal Konev" has told a TASS correspondent with the smile [as received]. The 26-year-old Ukrainian young man used Mark Twain's famous utterance to emphasize the absurdity of the story trumped up by the U.S. press that he has allegedly tried to escape the Soviet ship and was later on punished by authorities and even died.

"In the evening of October 24, last year, when our ship was lying out in the harbour of New Orleans, I was inspecting deck lamps and accidentally fell overboard", Miroslav Medvid related. Luckily, a U.S. duty boat was close by and it picked me up and brought to the ship's gangway ladder".

"The next morning an armed police detail headed by representatives of special services and State Department unexpectedly came on board the motorship. The ship was arrested [as received] and its contacts with the shore was cut off. Despite my heavy injuries, they demanded that I be brought ashore".

Miroslav Medvid related that the U.S. authorities compelled the leading officers of the motorship Marshal Konev to bring him aboard a Coast Guard boat. From there the Soviet delegation accompanying the seaman were taken away under heavy escort to a U.S. naval base where the citizens of the USSR were subjected to a twenty hour uninterrupted interrogation. The anti-Soviet provocation continued for more than two weeks. Some U.S. newspapers are up to now busy circulating the version that Medvid was forcibly detained on board the Soviet ship and then was done away with physically.

"The malicious spectacle which was staged on the eve of the Geneva summit was needed by those who do not like an improvement of relations between the USSR and the USA," Miroslav Medvid said. "I love my native land -- the Soviet Union -- and I have never thought of fleeing to the West. Recently I applied to the editor of the newspaper LAWRENCE EAGLE TRIBUNE in a demand that the dirty speculations around my name be discontinued."

After the motorship Marshal Konev returned to the USSR, Miroslav Medvid took medical treatment in a clinic. He is now restoring his health at his parents' place in Selets village not far from Lvov (the Ukraine's west), and is preparing to enter an institute.

PONOMAREV CONDEMNS U.S. TESTING CRUISE IN CANADA

LD210007 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1840 GMT 20 Jan 86

[By TASS observer Leonid Ponomarev]

[Text] Moscow, 20 Jan (TASS) -- The United States is again starting a series of tests of nuclear-capable cruise missiles on the territory of Canada. According to a report from the Ministry of National Defense of Canada, the first such test will take place tomorrow, 21 January. A further three, planned by the Pentagon for this year, will follow. The route chosen for the cruise missile's flight is over the northwest parts of the country from the Beaufort Sea to the Canadian testing site at the Cold Lake Air Force base in Alberta province. As UPI notes, the U.S. command chose the area of northern Canada for testing cruise missiles because "this locality is similar to the terrain of Siberia."

These are the actions on stepping up the pace of the arms race by which the Washington administration is starting 1986, a year which has, by the way, been declared a year of peace by the UN Organization.

A representative of the Canadian environmental protection organization "Greenpeace Foundation of Canada" stated to UPI that the cruise missile being tested by the U.S. Air Force in Canada is so small (about seven meters) that it can be hidden in a truck, ship or plane. According to him it is impossible to locate the deployment of such missiles.

All this confirms the view that Washington is conducting the development [razrabotka] of weapons which will permit the exclusion of any detection and consequently the setting up of monitoring over them. This also means that the American leaders are continuing to follow the path of the arms race in pursuit of the illusion of military superiority.

The Soviet Union proposes another path -- the gradual elimination, over a period of 15 years, of all nuclear weapons on earth and a start to the third millennium liberated from the threat of nuclear catastrophe. In the context of the program proposed by the USSR, during the first stage of its realization (over a period of 5 to 8 years) a whole complex of specific measures is envisaged, including the elimination of the USSR and U.S. medium-range missiles in the zone of Europe, both ballistic and cruise, as the first step on the path of freeing the continent of Europe from nuclear weapons. It is not the creation and testing of increasingly new nuclear missiles, but their complete elimination which is the position and aim of the Soviet Union's foreign policy.

SCOPE OF CANADIAN-U.S. MILITARY LINKS EXPOSED

LD201352 Moscow TASS in English 1323 GMT 20 Jan 86

[Text] Ottawa, January 20 TASS -- By TASS correspondent Artyom Melikyan.

Canada's conservative government conceals the scope of its military cooperation with the United States and other NATO countries.

According to the CTV television network, Canada, the United States and Britain signed a secret memorandum in April 1980 on research into and production of chemical and bacteriological means of warfare. At the same time, a spokesman for the National Defense Ministry claimed only last month that Canada's official policy does not allow the country to develop, test, produce or stockpile chemical or bacteriological weapons.

Lloyd Exworthy, a Liberal Party member of Parliament, expressed serious concern over Canada's involvement in the development and production of chemical and germ weapons.

The CTV obtained a paper enumerating 44 military agreements which the government concealed from the Parliament. Among them are, in particular, a document allowing the United States to test torpedoes in the Strait of Georgia off British Columbia, and an accord providing for the deployment of American nuclear weapons in Goose Bay and Stephenville (Newfoundland Province).

The facts cited by the CTV show yet another time that the Canadian Government deliberately hides from the public the scale of the country's participation in U.S. militarist programmes for fear of an upsurge in anti-war protests.

SENATORS VIEW PEACE INITIATIVE, SUPSOV'S ADDRESS

LD221801 Moscow TASS in English 1745 GMT 22 Jan 86

[Text] Washington January 22 TASS -- By TASS correspondent N. Turkatenko

The first what [as received] American senators and representatives saw in their offices on returning from long holidays were piles of letters and telegrams from individuals and public organizations. According to Congress employees, a vast majority of those who address their messages to the Capitol persistently demand that the Congress, which resumed work on Tuesday, give top-priority attention to questions of war and peace.

On these days, both American press and television extensively discuss the Soviet peace initiatives on the elimination of nuclear weapons, put forward in the January 15 statement by General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev, in the USSR Supreme Soviet's address to the U.S. Congress, handed over to Strom Thurmond, president pro tempore of the Senate, by the USSR's ambassador to the United States Anatoliy Dobrynin on January 17, and in the latest declaration by the Foreign Affairs Commissions of the Soviet of the Union and the Soviet of Nationalities of the USSR Supreme Soviet.

Preoccupied as members of Congress might be with domestic problems, like the reduction of the chronic deficit of the federal budget, a whole number of influential senators and representatives already declared that the Soviet proposals would be thoroughly studied at the Congress in the light of the vital need for reaching an early Soviet-American accord on problems of curbing the arms race.

Sen. Thurmond announced that the text of the address from the USSR Supreme Soviet will be distributed among all senators. There are contradictions, sometimes irreconcilable, between the two countries, he said. But there is no goal more important than peace on earth. That is why the road to a constructive dialogue and proposals that may secure peace should always remain open.

The leader of the House Democratic majority, James Wright, highly assessed the Soviet proposals. The attitude towards the proposals, he said, must be most serious. Pointing to the economic difficulties, currently being experienced by the United States, specifically to the fact that the U.S. state debt topped two trillion dollars under the present administration, he stressed that the United States is interested, not less than the Soviet Union, in releasing resources for needs of the civilian economy.

Alongside this approach to the Soviet proposals, there exists or, rather, prevails another, militarist position. It is indicative, however, that bowing to world public pressure, its advocates are trying hard to pretend that they also favour constructive talks with the Soviet Union.

This is graphically manifested in the manoeuvering of the White House which, on the one hand proclaims that the Soviet proposals deserve serious study, while, on the other hand, rejects the call for joining the Soviet Union's unilateral moratorium on all nuclear blasts and continues the implementation of its crash programme of "star wars" directed at spreading the arms race into outer space. Time will show whether the White House's position will undergo any change.

One thing is so far clear: the debate on the questions of war and peace, curbing the arms race and improving Soviet-American relations is gaining momentum in the United States. The Congress, the country's supreme legislative body, is to play an important role in the elaboration of the U.S. stance. With the date of the elections slated for November this year approaching, when the senators and representatives who seek re-election are compelled to take into account the mood of the voters, the pitch of the congressional debates on questions of vital importance for the country and the world at large, the intensity of the search for sensible alternatives to the arms race and the policy of confrontation cannot but grow higher.

COSMONAUTS' ARRIVAL IN SAN FRANCISCO REPORTED

LD190048 Moscow TASS in English 2238 GMT 18 Jan 86

[Text] San Francisco, January 18 TASS -- A Soviet cosmonauts' group consisting of A.A. Leonov, A.S. Yeliseyev and O.G. Makarov have arrived in San Francisco.

They will attend the meetings of the Executive Committee of the Association of the Participants in Space Flights. The constituent congress of the association was held in Paris in October last year. At the meetings in San Francisco, the Executive Committee of the association will discuss matters aimed at preparing the association's second congress which is to be held in Budapest in October this year.

NEW BOOK VIEWS 'WIDESCALE' ANTI-TERRORIST COURSE

LD222157 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1135 GMT 22 Jan 86

[Report by TASS correspondent I Borisenko]

[Text] Washington, 22 Jan (TASS) -- The campaign aimed at justifying in advance the "need" for new U.S. armed adventures abroad under the pretext of the "struggle against terrorism" is gathering strength in the United States. The latest little example of such a propaganda concoction is the book just published under the name "Terrorism as a Secret War Inspired by States."

The authors -- Ray Cline, former deputy director of the CIA, and Yonah Alexander, "an expert on state terrorism" -- are trying to depict participants in the national liberation movement as "terrorists," and favor the adoption of "resolute measures" in relation to those sovereign states whose policy is not to the taste of official Washington. In particular, the book contains appeals for massive political and diplomatic pressure to be exerted on "unsuitable" states, for economic sanctions to be introduced against them, and for the use of espionage. In addition to these measures, the authors call for a "total utilization of the potential" of the Munich "Liberty" and "Free Europe" radio centers, and also an anti-Cuban mouthpiece.

The list is crowned by clearly provocative "recommendations", calls for direct U.S. armed interference in various parts of the world under the pretext of the "fight against terrorism." Such actions, say the authors, "without any doubt will be legally and morally justified." What is more, as is clear from the book, the appropriate mechanism for working out plans and carrying out widescale "counterrevolutionary" operations has already been set up. Back in 1984 the Pentagon formed the so-called joint control of special operations, which is entrusted with the working out of plans for preparing and training "special groups" capable of conducting naval, air, and ground combat actions in "emergency conditions." The authors of the "research" also want U.S. allies to be widely involved in the implementation of punitive actions.

SOVIET TANKER RESCUES TWO AMERICANS IN ATLANTIC

LD230308 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0200 GMT 23 Jan 86

[Text] New York, 23 Jan (TASS) -- The crew of the Soviet tanker "Yuliy Danishevskiy" came to the aid of two Americans whose little single-engine plane had an accident and fell into the Atlantic 60 km from Palm Beach, Florida, and saved their lives.

The pilot, who discovered an engine breakdown, succeeded in sending a distress call before the plane crashed into the water. On receiving the call, the U.S. Coast Guard embarked on a search for the victims. But the search was not successful and was halted. Some time later, the coast guard received a message saying that the Americans had been picked up by the Soviet oil tanker. They were delivered safe and sound to the coast.

SOVIET, U.S. FISHERMEN MEET IN NAKHODKA

PM171527 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 17 Jan 86 Morning Edition p 5

[Report by own correspondent Yu. Balakirev: "Joint Work in the Ocean"]

[Text] Vladivostok -- A working group of Soviet and U.S. fishermen has been held in Nakhodka. It was organized within the framework of the activity of the Soviet-U.S. Maritime Resources Company, which has been in existence since 1978.

The group of fishing vessel captains representing the northwest United States was headed by shipowner Barry (Fisher), one of the company's organizers and an active and consistent champion of working collaboration between the two great powers' fishermen in the Pacific.

The U.S. captains and representatives of the Far East Fishing Industry Administration discussed plans for joint work in the forthcoming year. Fishing regions were defined. Further growth in fishing by U.S. trawlers and the processing of their catch on Soviet ships were projected. Nakhodka's guests again rated highly the reliability of their Soviet partners and the mutually advantageous nature of maritime cooperation. The number of people anxious to take part in the company's activity is growing in U.S. business circles, Barry (Fisher) noted.

EXPANDED COOPERATION BEGINS RESCUE SYSTEM

LD202223 Moscow TASS in English 1607 GMT 20 Jan 86

[Text] Moscow, January 20 TASS -- A third ground post serving the Kospas-Sarsat International Air/Sea Rescue From Space System has been set up in the Soviet Union.

Located in the environs of the Pacific port of Vladivostok, it joined the other two which are situated in Moscow and in Arkhangelsk on the Arctic coast.

Yuriy Atserov, chairman of the Soviet "Morsvyazsputnik" Association, told TASS that the Vladivostokppost will greatly increase the zone hwere distress signals from the Pacific will be received stably and clearly. It will include, for example, the Sea of Okhotsk, the South China Sea and Shakhalin Island.

The Kospas-Sarsat system, in service since 1982, has now helped to save the lives of 500 people in distress after air crashes or shipwrecks.

Using communications satellites, ground stations and radio buoys aboard ships, the international service has registered nearly 150 ship or plane accidents.

Besides the Soviet Union, the experimental project involves the United States, Canada and France.

"The opening of the third Soviet post receiving SOS signals relayed by three Soviet and one American satellites is another landmark in the long-term cooperation of the two leading space powers, the Soviet Union and the United States. Significantly, this has happened at a time when the entire world is discussing the statement by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. The results of our work show how countries with different social and political systems can cooperation [as received] in outer space," Atserov said.

"It is not an arms race in space, not the 'star wars' program but a peaceful exploration of outer space that the intellectual potential of humanity should be applied to. We are accumulating, little by little, the good experience of how we can work together, guided by reason and the natural feeling of self-preservation. I think our experience can form the basis of the first steps in fulfilling the program for completely eliminating nuclear weapons throughout the world," he said.

The information coming to the Soviet National Kospas-Sarsat Center in Zhdanov Street in Moscow gives an idea of the joint work done by the Soviet Union and the United States in the field.

Here's just some entries in the log book there: 35 passengers from a crashed airliner were saved from a height of 3,300 meters in Colorado; two fishermen received assistance in the Caribbean, a gravely-injured traveller was found 90 kilometers from Kotzebue, Alaska.

But it is not only distress signals that reach the building of the Soviet Ministry of the Merchant Marine by Telex. The partners' dialogue on organizational and technical issues is also brisk, including data on the satellites' condition, talks in connection with the forthcoming meeting of the international maritime committee on safety at sea in London, and exchanges of opinions on the establishment of a Kospas-Sarsat permanent secretariat.

STURUA EXAMINES U.S. CULTURAL 'DEBT'

PM151740 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 13 Jan 86 Morning Edition p 5

[M. Sturua article: "The 'Spirit of Geneva' and Culture"]

[Text] "Art is one means of uniting people," Lev Tolstoy said. The history of human culture convincingly confirms these words of the great Yasnaya Plyana sage. Since time immemorial, cannons and muses, obscurantism and culture have been at the opposite poles of our existence. The now well-known phrase of one of the German fascist fuehrers -- "When I hear the word 'culture' I release the safety catch on my pistol" -- not only reflects barbarity's attitude to civilization: Irrespective of this fuehrer's wish, it is a recognition of the role of culture as a powerful level of progress and an incomparable instrument for "uniting people."

Culture, like truth, has always been war's first victim. Barbarians destroyed ancient temples; medieval inquisitors and contemporary fascists burned books and their creators. But culture, like truth, is also the first victim of the "cold war." Soviet-U.S. relations are a classic example of this. Without delving into the depths of their annals, let us recall how, almost 6 years ago, the Washington administration broke off cultural exchanges between our countries in an attempt to achieve the forcible spiritual alienation of two great peoples and cultures. Here is just one example of this "enlightening" activity by Wasington: The U.S. authorities deemed the staging of an exhibition of masterpieces from Leningrad's Hermitage collection to be "not in the national interests" of the United States! This is truly a masterpiece of blind anti-Sovietism and, at the same time, of anticulture.

In our bleak age, when not only the future of culture, but also mankind's very existence is at stake, the main aim of "uniting people" and, consequently, of art is to preserve peace on earth. The "spirit of Geneva" engendered as a result of the Soviet-U.S. summit meeting has brought with it a glimmer of hope for people living in fear of a nuclear catastrophe. This spirit has also affected the cultural sphere. As is well-known, Soviet-U.S. agreements on contacts, exchanges, and cooperation in the sphere of science, technology, education, culture, and in other spheres were signed in the presence of the top Soviet and U.S. leaders during the Geneva talks.

Of course, in the contemporary world culture does not exist and develop in a vacuum. It feels the great influence of those general political processes taking place in the world arena. However, there is also the reverse of this connection. Culture -- genuine, progressive culture, naturally -- can and must exert a positive influence on the course of events by contributing to the "unity of people" in the struggle for peace, for a future without wars and arms. In this lies the highest duty of the masters of culture.

Cultural exchange is an important means of liquidating the dangerous deficit of trust between states. It effectively contributes to the materialization of the detente process. Soviet-U.S. relations and their dynamics -- both negative and positive -- convincingly attest to this interdependence. I had occasion to write on U.S. life -- "on the spot," as they say -- from 1959 through 1982. During this period Soviet-U.S. relations progressed through various stages, through the different gradations of "cold war" and detente. The first intergovernmental agreement on exchanges, including cultural exchanges, which was signed in 1958, gave a very promising start and subsequently, fruitful results. The U.S. public warmly applauded masters of Soviet culture and the Soviet audience -- masters of U.S. culture. I will never forget how George Balanchine gathered the New York Ballet troupe before tours in the Soviet Union and asked me to tell them about our country. I remember interviews with Benny Goodman and Duke Ellington during their tours around the Soviet Union. "Fears that the days of big jazz had passed were dispelled once and for all by the reception given us by Soviet spectators and listeners," these masters said. And the tours by the celebrated "symphonic big four" -- the Boston, Philadelphia, New York, and Cleveland orchestras headed by their great conductors!

We were not lacking for our part. I leaf through the reviews I wrote on tours by the Bolshoy Ballet and the Ukrainian and Georgian dance companies, on triumphal appearances beneath the arches of Carnegie Hall in New York and the Kennedy Center in Washington by such virtuosos as Richter, Gilels, Cogan, David Oistrakh, Svetlanov, and many others. Sometimes their performances were not simply celebrations of art, but also acts of great personal courage. The enemies of the development of Soviet-U.S. friendly relations tried to wreck concerts by Soviet masters and intimidate them. But not once, I repeat, not once did they succeed in this. What is more, by arousing the indignation of the U.S. public, the hooligan-like sorties by reaction merely made more prominent the significance of cultural exchange between our countries and its fruitful, noble nature. The enemy's abuse was original praise of it.

I mentioned the word "duty" [dolg] above. Frankly speaking, those people across the ocean were "in debt" [zadolzhali: play on Russian words] in the sphere of cultural exchanges. Here is some information to reflect on, as it is now accepted to say. During the period 1979 through 1984 alone, that is, when detente gave way to a freeze in Soviet-U.S. relations, 1,784 titles by U.S. authors were published in our country with a total circulation of 203 million copies! What can the U.S. side offer against this? Let us take another example. Work to publish a 45-volume library of U.S. literature is now reaching completion in our country. According to the original agreement, it was intended to publish two libraries -- Russian and Soviet literature in the United States and U.S. literature in the Soviet Union. But now the U.S. side has contrived to not publish a single volume! And another example. Performances of 51 plays by U.S. playwrights are showing on the stages of 165 Soviet theaters. What can U.S. theater headed by "dear old" Broadway offer against this?

Fedor Dostoyevskiy, who, equally with Lev Tolstoy, is the most widely read Russian writer in the United States, said that "Art has never abandoned man, has always answered his needs and his ideal, has always assisted him in seeking this ideal -- is born with man and develops alongside his historical life."

Unfortunately, the "debt" across the ocean in the cultural sphere is not only reflected in the numbers of editions, the thickness of volumes, and other similar statistics. Those opposed to the positive development of Soviet-U.S. relations poison them not only by placing a barrier in the way of genuine art but also by opening the floodgates before anti-art. Reactionary U.S. circles, particularly recently, subject the U.S. public to intensive ideological processing by planting anti-Soviet sentiments and sowing hatred for our people and state. It is enough to mention, as illustration, such films as "Red Dawn," "Invasion," "Rambo, First Blood, Part II," and "Rocky IV." Or, for example, "Amerika" -- a film penned by the ABC television company. Its content if one may call it such, stretched out over 16 hours, consis of the following: the protrayal of a ravaged America, seized with fear, under the heel of a 10-year "red" occupation! As the newspaper The LOS ANGELES TIMES admits in this connection, anti-Soviet paranoia has "recently" assumed new forms, reflecting even more reactionary sentiments than those observed in the United States in the fifties, at the time of "McCarthism."

No, peoples should not exchange "cultural views" such as these. They are incompatible with the rules of civilized human intercourse and, of course, are in glaring contradiction to the "spirit of Geneva." I am totally in agreement with my U.S. colleague from THE NEW YORK TIMES MAGAZINE who, comparatively recently, wrote the following: "If the Russians began making films about the United States invading the Soviet Union we could rightly accuse them of kidnapping hysteria and hatred toward Americans and of exacerbating international tension. And we would have some grounds for fearing the effect on the Soviet population in just the same way as we now have reason for alarm with regard to the effect of the 'entertainment' on Americans."

Anti-art and anticulture are conducive to a dangerous increase in the deficit of trust. By setting them in opposition to genuine cultural exchange, which sows "reason, goodness, and eternity," responsible political figures and prominent masters of culture are rejecting the terrestrial concept of duty and replacing it with duty in the highest sense of this word -- the duty to mankind, to its future. As far as our state is concerned, from the very first days of its existence it has ranked such sacred concepts as peace and culture equally. As early as 30 December 1917, in an address to the peoples and governments of other countries, the Soviet Government stated that "Its task is to create the conditions under which all peoples could be united in economic and cultural cooperation." Throughout the years which have passed since then the Land of the Soviets has been guided by this noble motto and has put it into practice consistently and unwaveringly. The significance of this task increases still further today, increases in direct proportion to the threat posed to mankind by the enemies of peace and international security.

"Art is a powerful force," Balzac said. So let this powerful force serve the cause of peace and serve the development and materialization of the "spirit of Geneva"!

MORE REPORTS ON SHEVARDNADZE VISIT TO DPRK

Kim Il-song Receives Shevardnadze

PM221635 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 23 Jan 86 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Meeting in Pyongyang"]

[Text] Pyongyang, 22 Jan -- On 21 January Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Workers Party of Korea [WPK] Central Committee and president of the DPRK, received E.A. Shevardnadze, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR foreign minister, who is in the DPRK at the invitation of the WPK Central Committee and the DPRK Government for an official friendly visit.

E.A. Shevardnadze handed Kim Il-song a personal message from M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

During the conversation, which took place in a warm, friendly atmosphere, mutual satisfaction was expressed with the dynamic development of Soviet-Korean relations in the spirit of the Treaty on Friendship, Cooperation, and Mutual Assistance Between the USSR and the DPRK and confidence was expressed that the traditional relations of friendship and cooperation between the two parties, countries, and peoples will be deepened and extended.

During an exchange of opinions on topical international problems Kim Il-song declared the Korean communists' and Korean people's support for the concrete program for the total elimination of nuclear and chemical weapons by the end of this century set forth in M.S. Gorbachev's recent statement. This statement, he said, expresses the most cherished aspirations of peoples throughout the world. We must wage a joint struggle for the implementation of the program set forth in the statement.

Kim Il-song gave a positive assessment of the Soviet Union's call for a search for a common, comprehensive approach to the resolution of the problem of security in Asia.

E.A. Shevardnadze noted that the Soviet Union invariably supports the DPRK's initiatives and practical steps aimed at preserving peace on the Korean peninsula, turning it into a nuclear-free zone, and achieving the peaceful, democratic unification of the country. The DPRK's recent decision not to hold major military maneuvers on the peninsula in future was weighty evidence of the desire for the normalization of the situation in Korea.

The sides condemned the decision of the United States and South Korea to hold the large-scale joint Team Spirit-86 maneuvers, which lead to the further exacerbation of the situation on the Korean peninsula. They came out in favor of the withdrawal of American troops from South Korea with all their armaments, including nuclear weapons.

It was stressed that the USSR and the DPRK will continue to make energetic efforts in defense of peace and security in the Asian and Pacific region and to develop broad, constructive cooperation among Asian countries.

Kim Il-song gave a high assessment of the creative activity of the Soviet people in greeting the 27th CPSU Congress with new successes in the cause of implementing the party's general line and achieving a qualitatively new condition of Soviet society through the acceleration of the country's socioeconomic development.

On behalf of Soviet people, E.A. Shevardnadze congratulated the Korean people on the successes achieved under the leadership of the Workers Party in implementing the decisions of the 6th WPK Congress and wished the DPRK working people further achievements in the struggle to build socialism and secure the peaceful unification of their motherland.

Taking part in the talk were Kim Chong-il, member of the WPK Central Committee Politburo Presidium and secretary of the WPK Central Committee; Kim Yong-nam, member of the WPK Central Committee Politburo, vice premier of the DPRK Administration Council, and DPRK foreign minister, and Ho Tam, member of the WPK Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the WPK Central Committee.

On the same day E.A. Shevardnadze visited Mangyongdae and inspected the People's Place of Study. In the evening he attended a concert at the (Mansude) theater together with Kim Yong-nam.

Treaty, Agreement Signed

LD221211 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1130 GMT 22 Jan 86

[Text] Comrade Shevardnadze, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR minister of foreign affairs, who is in the DPRK on an offical friendly visit, and Kim Yong-nam, member of the WKP Central Committee Politburo, vice premier of the DPRK State Administration Council and minister of foreign affairs, signed a treaty in Pyongyang today between the USSR and the DPRK on the demarcation of the economic zone and of the continental shelf, and an agreement on mutual visits by the citizens of the USSR and of the DPRK. These documents further strengthen the legal basis of the relations of good-neighborliness and cooperation between the two states, the Soviet Union and People's Korea.

Cordiality Shows Firm Ties

LD221612 Moscow World Service in English 1410 GMT 22 Jan 86

[Vladimir Korolev commentary]

[Text] In the course of his visit to the Democratic Peoples' Republic of Korea, the Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze met with the general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea, President Kim Il-song, and held talks with Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam. Vladimir Korolev comments:

The cordiality with which the Soviet guest was met on Korean soil displayed once again how firm relations between the two countries are. Friendship between the two nations consolidated when the Soviet Union helped the working people of Democratic Korea defend their gains. It continues to strengthen in cooperation promoted for the benefit of both nations in the name of strengthening the positions of the socialist world.

Dozens of industrial facilities built in the republic with Soviet aid can serve as evidence of fruitful ties. Bilateral cooperation involves many spheres. Participants in the recent talks in Pyongyang express satisfaction with the dynamic development of relations and are resolved to continue expanding them. Socialism is inseparable from creative endeavors, and such endeavors require peace. That's why at the talks particular attention was paid to the problems of peace and disarmament.

The leaders of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea proclaim support for the program for liquidating all nuclear and chemical weapons on the globe before the end of this century, outlined by Mikhail Gorbachev in his recent statement.

The Soviet Union and Democratic Korea are neighbors on the Asian Continent and so, when discussing international problems, the two sides focused on Asian affairs. The Soviet Union, Eduard Shevardnadze said, has invariably supported the republic's initiatives aimed at preserving peace on the Korean peninsula, at turning it into a non-nuclear zone, and gaining the country's unification by peaceful and democratic means. These initiatives and other constructive proposals concerning Asia put forward by a number of socialist countries are concordant with the composite approach to resolving the continent's problems suggested by the USSR. This approach was also positively assessed in Pyongyang.

Shevardnadze Departs

LD230553 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0455 GMT 23 Jan 86

[Text] Pyongyang, 23 Jan (TASS) -- Today, E. A. Shevardnadze, member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and USSR foreign affairs minister, left the Democratic People's Republic of Korea [DPRK], where he had been on an official friendly visit at the invitation of the Workers Party of Korea [WPK] Central Committee and the Government of the Republic.

At the airport he was seen off by Pak Song-chol, member of the WPK Central Committee Politburo and DPRK vice president; Kim Yong-nam, member of the WPK Central Committee Politburo, vice premier of the Administrative Council, and DPRK foreign affairs minister; Kim Pok-sin, candidate member of the Politburo of the WPK and vice premier of the Administrative Council, and representatives of the working people of Pyongyang.

SHEVARDNADZE VISIT TO MONGOLIA REPORTED

LD231054 Moscow TASS in English 1038 GMT 23 Jan 86

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, January 23 TASS -- Eduard Shevardnadze, a member of the Politbureau of the CPSU Central Committee and minister of foreign affairs of the USSR, arrived on an official visit of friendship here at the invitation of the Central Committee of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party and the Government of Mongolia. He was welcomed at the airport by Tumenbayaryn Ragchaa, a member of the Politbureau of the Central Committee of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party and first deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers of Mongolia, and other officials.

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON MPR DEFENSE MINISTER'S VISIT

Yondon Visits Mausoleum

LD221327 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1130 GMT 22 Jan 86

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] Colonel-General Jamsrangiyn Yondon, Mongolian People's Republic defense minister, is in our country on an official, friendly visit. The guest visited the Vladimir Ilich Lenin Mausoleum today where he laid a wreath.

He honored the memory of the leader of world proletariat and the founder of the world's first socialist state with a minute of silence.

The Mongolian defense minister paid a deeply respectful tribute to the memory of Soviet servicemen who fell during the struggle against fascism, for peace and happiness throughout the world. He laid a wreath at the tomb of the Unknown Soldier beside the Kremlin Wall.

Gromyko Praises Cooperation

LD221824 Moscow TASS in English 1801 GMT 22 Jan 86

[Text] Moscow, January 22 TASS -- Soviet-Mongolian cooperation makes a tangible contribution to the cause of socialist and communist construction and to the strengthening of the unity of fraternal socialist countries. This unanimous opinion was expressed today during a conversation in Moscow by Andrey Gromyko, president of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, and Colonel General Jamsrangiyn Yondon, Mongolian minister of defence. It was specially stated that it is precisely this cooperation that has become an important factor in the maintenance of security in the Asian continent. Lasting peace in Asia can and must most effectively influence the normalisation of the international political climate as a whole.

Andrey Gromyko pointed out that Mongolia's constructive measures which are aimed at promoting an improvement of the situation in the Asian continent are finding full support of the Soviet Union.

At a time when certain forces of the bloc of NATO continue to whip up the arms race, the USSR seeks to ease international tensions as much as possible and to prevent slipping down into the abyss of a nuclear war. This is precisely the goal of its recent large-scale initiatives set out in the statement of Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. The main of them [as received] is a concrete and clear-cut programme for the elimination of nuclear weapons throughout the world in the course of the coming fifteen years. It reflects the highly humane aims of the Soviet state and the concern for the destiny of the whole of mankind.

The Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party and the government of the country, Jamsrangiyn Yondon stated, are expressing deep satisfaction with cooperation with its great northern neighbour. The Mongolian People's Republic also ardently supports the new Soviet peace initiatives, including the address of the USSR Supreme Soviet to the U.S. Congress on the question of how to put an end to the frenzy of the nuclear race.

Both sides expressed confidence that coordination of the policies of the states of the socialist community contributes to changing the international situation for the better, to curbing the arms race and to preventing a new war.

COMMENTATORS REVIEW SHEVARDNADZE'S VISIT TO JAPAN

Tavrovskiy

LD222036 Moscow TASS in English 2000 GMT 22 Jan 86

[Text] Moscow January 22 TASS -- The NEW TIMES own coorespondent Yuriy Tavrovskiy stresses in the latest issue of the weekly the importance of the ten hours which Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze and his Japanese counterpart Shintaro Abe spent discussing Mikhail Gorbachev's latest statement, the new large-scale peace initiative of the Soviet Union and the most burning global and regional problems.

The talks in Tokyo created an atmosphere of benevolence and trust that lacked so much during the past years. If that atmosphere is preserved and even improved during the forthcoming weeks and months, 1986 may enter history as the year of a breakthrough in Soviet-Japanese relations. Moscow is striving to attain precisely this objective, the NEW TIMES correspondent stressed.

Japanese Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone and other leaders of the government and the ruling party on several occasions spoke in favour of breaking the deadlock in Japanese-Soviet relations. For the first time in its history, the Liberal Democratic Party introduced into its draft programme of action a provision on the need to give special attention to improving ties with the Soviet Union. Leaders of the opposition parties and leading businessmen call for that, too.

Mindful of Japan's place in the trade and economic structure of the world, the country's political and business circles are re-thinking the diplomatic strategy for the end of the current and beginning of the 21st century, looking for a worthy place for their country on the world scene. It is perfectly obvious that Japan can enhance its status only on the foundation of firm relations with all the great powers, including the Soviet Union, the writer points out.

As to the economy, influential figures regard the development of cooperation with the neighbouring country as a way out of the imminent crisis in trade with the United States and Western European countries. Indicative in this respect is the opinion of Hisao Kanamori, president of the Japanese Centre for Economic Studies, set out in the latest issue of the journal "Japanese Trade and Industry." The scientist highly assesses the prospects of the USSR's economic development -- the emphasis on the predominant development of Siberia and the Far East opens up qualitatively new vistas for Soviet-Japanese economic cooperation.

We got used to hearing the good word "Dialogue" during the past days. And we would like to hope that this word become asserted in Tokyo's political lexicon, Yuriy Tavrovskiy concludes.

Login

OW230637 Moscow in Japanese to Japan 1200 GMT 22 Jan 86

[(Pavel Login) commentary]

[Text] On 19 January, Shevardnadze, Politburo member of the CPSU Central Committee and Soviet foreign minister, ended his visit to Japan. During Foreign Minister Shevardnadze's visit, useful views were exchanged on the international situation and important questions in bilateral relations between the Soviet Union and Japan.

According to reports by Japanese news media, representatives of various circles in Japan affirmatively evaluate the results of his visit, and note that it has become a starting point in promoting Japanese-Soviet relations.

The following is a commentary by Moscow Radio commentator avel Login on the Soviet foreign minister's visit to Japan:

We, the Soviet people, also think that the Tokyo talks were a success and warrant optimism for the future. There are sufficient grounds for this.

First of all, Soviet Foreign Minister Shevardnadze's visit showed that it is possible for Japan and the Soviet Union to hold constructive talks, even though they may have different positions or approaches on a number of problems.

Foreign Minister Shevardnadze's visit resulted in the provision of a firm foothold for expanding and upgrading the level of political dialogue. The expansion of political dialogue is not the only result. As a result of talks held between the Soviet and Japanese foreign ministers -- Messrs Shevardnadze and Abe -- the two countries agreed to upgrade their government-to-government consultations on trade and economic questions and to reopen the Joint Committee for Scientific and Technological Cooperation.

These agreements are significant in that they are directly linked to various problems which would produce modest, practical results useful to both sides.

During Soviet Foreign Minister Shevardnadze's visit, a 1986-90 trade payment agreement and a treaty on avoiding dual taxation on incomes were signed, and documents on the development of cultural exchanges between the Soviet Union and Japan were exchanged. This shows that it is possible for the two countries to bring their dialogue to concrete fruition if both sides so desire.

The discussion on international problems in the talks was of very important significance. The explanation offered by Soviet Foreign Minister Shevardnadze on Soviet foreign policy, particularly on the new Soviet initiative described in CPSU General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev's statement, must have helped the Japanese side better understand the Soviet people's aspirations for peace.

The Soviet people are deeply aware of their responsibility for the security and peace of all people, including those in the Asian and Pacific region. We believe that Asian countries can find a common language, while jointly searching for ways to convert Asia into a continent of lasting peace, friendship, and true goodneighborliness. Under the present situation, in which tension is mounting in the region, efforts in this direction are indeed of vital importance.

In this regard, the importance of the following passage in the joint communique should be emphasized: Both sides held the common view that the development of relations between the Soviet Union and Japan, in accordance with the principles of reciprocity, equality, and noninterference in each other's internal affairs, will not only be in the interests of the people of the two countries, but also greatly contribute to the peace and security of Asia and the whole world.

We can evaluate the results of Soviet Foreign Minister Shevardnadze's visit to Japan as useful and constructive. An important task for the two countries in the days ahead is to carry into practice the agreements reached. While searching for mutually acceptable ways to improve Soviet-Japanese relations, both sides should make common contributions to making the international situation in the Asian and Pacific region wholesome.

We think that this is fully possible, and the Soviet side intends to do everything in its ability to that end.

KUZNETSOV, DELEGATION DEPART FOR INDIA 22 JAN

Seen Off by Demichev

LD221254 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0900 GMT 22 Jan 86

[Text] At the invitation of the Indian Parliament, a USSR Supreme Soviet delegation, headed by Comrade Kuznetsov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, left Moscow for Delhi today. At the air field, Comrade Demichev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, and USSR minister of culture, and other officials saw the delegation off.

Delegation Arrives in India

LD230721 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0702 GMT 23 Jan 86

[Text] Delhi, 23 Jan (TASS) -- Today, at the invitation of the Indian Parliament, a delegation of the USSR Supreme Soviet headed by Vasiliy Kuznetsov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, first deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, arrived here.

At the Indira Gandi International Airport the delegation was met by Ramaswamy Venkataraman, vice president of India; the leadersip of the Indian Parliament; and other officials. Among those who met the delegation was Vasiliy Rykov, the USSR ambassador to India.

TASS NOTES U.S. GENERAL'S TALKS IN PAKISTAN

Talks With Foreign Minister

LD201458 Moscow TASS in English 1441 GMT 20 Jan 86

[Text] New Delhi, January 20 TASS -- General George Christ, chief of the U.S. Central Command (Centcom), is staying in Pakistan on a visit, according to reports from Islamabad.

He has held talks with Pakistan Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan and other officials. The talks, it is believed here, were dominated by issues connected with a further escalation of an undeclared war on Afghanistan and the strengthening of the militarist axis Washington-Islambad, in particular the possible use of Pakistani territory by the American military.

Local observers note that Washington this year is going to give the anti-Afghan counter-revolutionary rabble 600 million dollars in aid through official channels alone. The aid is routed to the bandits precisely through Pakistan where more than 100 military camps and strongholds are known to have been set up, in which counter-revolutionary gangs undergo training under the supervision of American, Pakistani and other military instructors.

In connection with the current visit by the American general the Indian press recalls repeated reports about the establishment in the area of Gwandar on the Pakistani coast of bases for operations in the Persian Gulf by the "Rapid Deployment Force" which, as is known, is subordinate to Centcom. Besides, the Ziaul Haq regime has agreed to American aviation using airfields in Pakistan in "contingencies."

The unprecedented buildup of the Pakistani Armed Forces themselves is also a source of concern to south and south west Asian states. Islamabad has already received from Washington dozens of newest F-16 fighter-bombers, helicopters, tanks, artillery pieces, volcano anti-aircraft guns and naval ships. The U.S. Administration of late, according to UNI news agency, has endorsed extra supplies of latest weapons systems to the Pakistani regime. These include radars which substantially increase the offensive capability of aircraft and artillery. The Pakistani military has also been allowed to buy harpoon sea-based cruise missiles without restrictions.

Meets With Prime Minister

LD221817 Moscow TASS in English 1738 GMT 22 Jan 86

[Text] New Delhi, January 22 TASS -- According to reports reaching here, General George Christ, commander of the U.S. Central Command (Centcom), now on a visit in Islamabad, held talks with Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo of Pakistan. An offical spokesman for the Pakistani Government declined to disclose their content. UNI news agency reported however, that the talks centered on preparations for closing a new multi-billion military and economic deal between the two countries, providing for a further boost in shipments of most sophisticated U.S.-made military equipment to the Islamabad regime.

The local press points out that the moves to foster the U.S.-Pakistani military alliance cannot be viewed separately from the efforts to convert Pakistan into a springboard for the undeclared war on the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan and for provocations against other freedom-loving states in this region.

Kabul January 22 TASS -- The United States assigns to the Ziaul Haq regime the role of the region's policeman, BAKHTAR news agency points out. Aided and abetted by the United States, Pakistan is busy carrying through an unprecedented militaristic programme. It has already received from across the ocean the latest F-16 fighter-bombers, helicopters, tanks, artillery pieces, combat ships and missiles.

Agression against Afghanistan is perpetrated exactly from Pakistani territory. Pakistan is also the site of about 130 camps where bandit formations of Afghan counter-revolutionaries undergo training, the news agency says.

BELOSHAPKO COMMENTS ON INDIAN-PAKISTANI TALKS

LD201409 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1730 GMT 19 Jan 86

[Vladimir Beloshapko commentary]

[Text] The first round of talks between the secretaries of the Foreign Affairs Ministries of India and Pakistan on issues connected with normalizing bilateral relations has come to an end in Islamabad. A Moscow radio commentary; at the microphone is Vladimir Beloshapko:

It is undoubtedly good news when the two neighboring states, between whom there is no small number of complex problems, sit down at the negotiating table in search of a peaceful solution. All the more so because it is a question of by no means only establishing firm goodneighborly relations and widening mutually beneficial cooperation between Delhi and Islamabad. In a wider sense, how the political situation in south and southeast Asia develops depends upon the state of Indian-Pakistani relations; whether this region will become a zone of firm peace and stability, or, as before, a hotbed of potential armed confrontation.

In a word, the talks are important. Although it is still early to judge their success, only the first round has passed, it is obvious that much, if not everything, will depend on what sort of policies these two states practicably conduct in the region. As far as India is concerned, it firmly demonstrates its goodwill and sincere aspiration for normal relations with its neighbor. This is shown by the draft treaty, proposed by Delhi, on friendship and cooperation between India and Pakistan. In its realistic policies, the republic has not undertaken and does not undertake a single action that can be evaluated as hostile to Pakistan. This, unfortunately, did in no way (?meet with the cooperation of the Pakistani military regime).

Wide-scale military preparations on the borders with India, armed provocations, active support for Sikh extremists, claims on the Indian state of Jammu and Kashmir, and finally, the strengthening military partnership with the United States, all arouse well-founded alarm within India and places Islamabad's peace-loving rhetoric in doubt. The Indian public also is put on guard by the fact that the Pakistani side, as has been reported by the newspaper NATIONAL HERALD, has again rejected Delhi's proposals not to offer foreign states military bases on their territory, and also to address existing problems on an exclusively bilateral basis.

PRAVDA DESCRIBES ARMED CLASHES IN AFGHANISTAN

PM221541 [Editorial Report] Moscow PRAVDA in Russian on 17 January in its First Edition carries on page 6 part 1 of a 4,000-word report by V. Verstakov under the general heading "A Very Long NIght. From the Afghan Notebook," with part 2 carried by Moscow PRAVDA in Russian on 19 January in its First Edition on page 6, dealing with the subject of an armed clash between a Soviet Army battalion and a group of dushman fighters in one of the eastern provinces of Afghanistan.
Part 1 of the report is introduced by the following editorial passage: "Battles in Panjsher and in the region of Qandahar, the bombardment with rocket missiles of the absolutely peaceful village of Sarkani, devoid of military posts and objectives, attacks on columns passing along the 'life line' (from the port of Khayraton to Kabul via the Salang Pass), and bloody explosions at Kabul airport and the Kabul Polytechnical Institute -- this is how the seventh winter of the undeclared war began in Afghanistan.

"A difficult time. There are no easy times there, however. Having taken the responsible decision to broaden the social base of the April Revolution, the DRA Government has offered peace to all compatriots without exception but the counterrevolutionaries who have settled in Pakistan insist on war, a time of unconcealed aggression."

Verstakov then goes on to relate how Soviet Army units in this eastern province of Afghanistan received information that dushmans were "robbing columns on the roads and attacking villages." What is more, he continues, the Afghan state information service "warned that the shelling and attacks coincided with penetration into the province by special groups from Pakistan," and so "more active and coordinated moves," could be expected from the rebels. Although Afghan Army subunits and the people's militia would be able to foil any dushman undertaking, Verstakov notes, "villages in the foothills and along the rivers flowing toward the reservoir would remain unprotected." The province would therefore require assistance, he writes.

Vertakov relates how he joins the "Moskva" company, commanded by Lieutanant Aleksandr Kisten, and describes how their armored column heads in the direction of a large conflagration visible for miles around, at which point they are met by an "Afghan military column or, to be more precise, what had survived of it." Advancing further at a great pace, Verstakov continues, they soon "enter the region where the villages are villages no longer, but piles of rubble."

Members of the "Moskva" company are ordered to "shoot only at visible targets" in order to "save on ammunition." Verstakov brings the first part of the report to a close with a detailed description of how their column suddenly comes under attack from dushman antitank rocket launchers.

Like part 1, part 2 is also introduced by an editorial passage: "When one returns from Afghanistan, the first thing one is usually asked is: what changes are taking place in the situation and how do our people change there? The situation has been discussed in previous correspondence, and of the people I can say that those inevitable changes which occur in the nature and personality of a soldier or officer during 1 or 2 years of a particularly complex, at times dangerous life are not made for sweeping generalization. In my opinion, the more difficult things are for a person, the more he becomes himself rather than someone else. I have seen this more than once; during the long night of fighting, of which I write, I witnessed this again."

With no mention made of any possible losses incurred by the Soviet side, Verstakov relates how those members of the "Moskva" company sent out on a reconnaissance mission return "with trophies: the personal documents of killed dushmans" and "a submachine-gun." However, "due to the impenetrable darkness, the dushmans who survived had time to carry off the rest of the weapons," he reports. Having taken a suspected dushman prisoner, the column once again moves on, only to come to an almost immediate halt again when there is the "deafening roar of a powerful antitank mine explosion, unmistakably recognizable on Afghan roads." As a result, "one armored personnel carrier is blown up," and there ensues an intensive exchange of fire -- "such as even Kisten had not very often witnessed, although he had served in Afghanistan for a long time."

On returning to the town, Verstakov concludes, they see the local inhabitants also returning. "Probably," he writes, "they had heard our night battle and knew from experience that now the rebel band would not soon decide on new sorties from the mountains."

KABUL PRESS CONFERENCE HELD ON DOMESTIC SITUATION

LD211635 Moscow TASS in English 1618 GMT 21 Jan 86

[Text] Kabul, January 21 TASS -- BAKHTAR news agency has convened a press conference here for local and foreign journalists. Prominent public figures and statesmen of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, representatives of the clergy, the consultative council of the jirga of the Pashtun tribes and revolution defenders detachments responded to questions put by correspondents of socialist countries, the United States, Britain, Sweden, Japan, India, Kuwait and other states.

Speakers at the press conference drew attention to the effectiveness of the new steps taken by the Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan to broaden the social base of the revolutionary power. Note was made of the important role which mass public organisations have to play in fulfilling such urgent socio-ecnomic tasks as stamping out illiteracy, carrying through the land-and-water reform and developing industry and agriculture.

Representatives of the Afghan public firmly denounced the crimes by counter-revolutionary gangs on Afghan land. Although the undeclared war on the Afghan people continues unabated, the republic steadily follows the path of progress and social transformations in the interests of the mass of the people.

U.S. MILITARY BUILDUP LINKED TO PHILIPPINE POLL

PM221026 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 18 Jan 86 Morning Edition p 4

[Own correspondent I. Kovalev report: "Colonial Ways"]

[Text] Manila -- More and more new contingents of U.S. Armed Forces are arriving at the U.S. Subic Bay naval base in the Philippines, and this buildup is timed to coincide with the early presidential elections in the country on 7 February, the capital's newspaper TIMES JOURNAL has reported. Last week, the paper writes, 2,000 U.S. Marines arrived in Subic Bay from Okinawa allegedly for "routine exercises." On 18 January, "Blue Ridge," flagship of the commander of the U.S. 7th Fleet, will also arrive from Japan. And following it the aircraft carrier "Midway" with 4,500 officers and men and 80 planes and helicopters on board will arrive in Subic Bay accompanied by destroyers and frigates. Two nuclear submarines are also approaching the Philippines. Why is such a menacing military deterrent needed? Humorous commentators conjecture that the U.S. military contingents are "part of the forces which are to ensure the security of the American observers at the presidential elections." Washington is already preparing to dispatch to the Philippines a large group of observers (around 20 people), including in particular the chairmen of the foreign affairs committees of both houses of the U.S. Congress. Washington's representatives allege that the observers officially invited to the elections by the republic's president, F. Marcos, will merely see to it that the elections are "fair and honest" and will not take sides in the elections. It is on this condition that the Filipinos are allowing them in. However, distrust is growing among the republic's public and political circles as to the avowed aims of the foreign "inspectors."

The practice of Philippine-American relations over many years attests that Washington does not see itself in the role of neutral observer of Philippine internal political life and, as the local newspaper DAILY EXPRESS writes, it still treats the republic as its colony. In a television interview last Wednesday P. Castro, acting Philippine foreign minister, said that even the very arrival in the country of U.S. observers is an "insult to the Philippine people." Matters have reached the point where a draft resolution is being introduced in the Philippine Parliament proposing that the U.S. ambassador in the Philippines be declared persona non grata for his interference in the country's internal affairs. As for the concentration on the Philippine island of Luzon of several thousand U.S. soldiers and powerful combat hardware, local commentators consider that this is no longer an "insult" but a direct threat of armed interference, in case something fails to accord with Washington's scenarios during or before the elections.

PHILIPPINES UNIONS PROTEST U.S. INTERFERENCE

LD181233 Moscow TASS in English 0821 GMT 18 Jan 86

[Text] Manila, January 18 TASS -- The National Labour Coalition, a big trade union confederation incorporating nearly 40 federations and trade union organizations of the Philippines, has protested against U.S. interference in the country's home affairs. Israel Bocbo, secretary-general of the coalition, said that official representatives of the USA, among them U.S. ambassador to the Philippines Stephen Bosworth and CIA agents are interfering in the affairs concerning solely the people of the Philippines and its government. He expressed support for the proposal of Leonard Perez, presidential adviser on political affairs, that a resolution be tabled at the next National Assembly session on declaring Stephen Bosworth persona non grata.

CAMBODIAN STATEMENT FULLY SUPPORTS USSR ARMS PROPOSALS

LD221504 Moscow TASS in English 1451 GMT 22 Jan 86

[Text] Phnom Penh, January 22 TASS -- The new Soviet initiatives on disarmament have been fully supported by the Central Committee of the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea and the Government of the People's Republic of Kampuchea. In the statement which was issued in Phnom Penh it is noted that peace is particularly treasured by the Kampuchean people who lost millions of its sons and daughters in the years of imperialist aggression against countries of Indochina to be the target of an undeclared war which is conducted by imperialism and reactionary forces. The Kampucheans see in Mikhail Gorbachev's statement the source of inspiration and hope for a peaceful future. These initiatives testify to the sincere peaceability of the Soviet Union, its goodwill, realism and constructive stand. The Kampuchean people in close alliance with the fraternal peoples of Vietman and Laos is fully determined to make a befitting contribution to safegrarding peace and stability in South East Asia, thereby promoting the cause of workd peace, the statement stresses.

AUSTRALIA'S HAYDEN ON 'POSITIVE ASPECTS' IN USSR PROPOSALS

LD221654 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1410 GMT 22 Jan 86

[Text] Canberra, 22 Jan (TASS) -- Yu.K Nazarkin, special USSR Foreign Ministry representative, currently on a visit to Australia, met Australian Foreign Affairs Minister William Hayden today.

In a statement to the press, W. Hayden stressed that there are "many positive aspects" regarding the disarmament proposals advanced by CPSU Central Committee General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev. A number of items in the Soviet proposals contain new points, which may facilitate the attainment of agreement between the nuclear powers. One cannot but welcome these points, he said.

U.S. DELEGATION HOLDS TALKS IN SRV ON MIA'S

PM220952 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 20 Jan 86 Morinig Edition p 5

[TASS report" "Parliamentarians' Trip"]

[Text] Hanoi, 19 Jan -- A group of American parliamentarians headed by Republican Senator F. Murkowski, chairman of the Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee and the Senate Subcommittee on Southeast Asian and Pacific affairs, was in Hanoi 17-18 January.

The delegation held talks with Vice Foreign Minister Hoang Bich Son, during which they discussed questions of seeking out information about American servicemen posted missing during the Vietnam war and other questions. Its participants were received by SRV Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach.

According to VNA, the American congressmen visited the capital's history museum, the Hanoi fair, and a spot where an American plane was once shot down.

COOPERATION AGREEMENTS SIGNED WITH GDR, CSSR

PM2215[illegible] Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 22 Jan 85 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Agreements Signed"]

[Text] An agreement on cooperation in constructing industrial enterprises and other installations in 1986-1990 was signed by the USSR and GDR Governments on 20 January.

In preparing the agreement the sides were guided by the decisions of the CEMA economic [illegible]mit and the Long-Term Program for Developing USSR-GDR Cooperation in the Sphere of Technology, and Production for the Period Through the Year 2000.

It is planned to considerably expand cooperation in building and reconstructing the GDR enterprises of atomic and thermal power; the metallurgical, chemical and paper and pulp industries; and other sectors of the economy. The Soviet Union will continue to provide technical assistance in carrying out geological prospecting work for gas and solid minerals in the GDR.

In the current 5-year plan construction of such major power installations as the Nord nuclear electric power station and the Jaenschwalde thermal electric power station will be completed and construction of the major new Stendal nuclear electric power station will begin in cooperation with the USSR. A "2000" hot rolling mill shop will be built at the Ost metallurgical combine through joint efforts.

At the same time, a protocol was signed on volumes of supplies of sets of equipment and the provision of services in 1986 for industrial enterprises and other installations built with USSR-GDR cooperation.

The agreement and protocol were signed by K.F. Katushev, chairman of the State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations, and H. Soelle; GDR foreign trade minister.

On the same day talks were completed and an agreement signed between the USSR and CSSR Governments on cooperation in building, reconstructing, and modernizing industrial enterprises and other installations in Czechoslovakia in 1986-1990.

The agreement envisages further expansion of cooperation in building and reconstructing industrial installations in very important sectors of the CSSR national economy.

The bulk of Soviet technical assistance to Czechoslovakia in 1986-1990 will go to developing atomic power. A number of atomic electric power stations will continue to be built in the CSSR on a cooperation basis and cooperation in the sphere of atomic machine building and reciprocal supplies of equipment for atomic electric power stations will be further developed.

In the ferrous metallurgy sphere it is planned to reconstruct and modernize enterprises previously built with Soviet technical assistance with the aim of increasing productivity, enhancing the quality of metal products, and introducing modern manufacturing processes.

Cooperation in building and operating the Prague subway and facilities belonging to the chemicals, oil refining, paper and pulp industries, and other sectors will continue.

The agreement was signed by K.F. Katushev and CSSR Foreign Trade Minister B. Urban.

A.K. Antonov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and R. Rohlicek, deputy premier of the CSSR Government, were present at the signing.

JOINT GAS COOPERATION DOCUMENT SIGNED WITH GDR

PM221411 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 22 Jan 86 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report under general headline: "Economic Relations Expanding"]

[Text] A USSR-GDR agreement on cooperation in providing ancillary facilities for the Yamburg gas field and constructing the main gas pipeline from Yamburg to the USSR's western border was signed in Moscow on 20 January.

The agreement is aimed at the practical implementation of the decision taken at the CEMA economic summit in Moscow in June 1984 and the Long-term Program for Developing USSR-GDR Cooperation in the Sphere of Science, Technology, and Production Through the Year 2000.

The participation of GDR organizations in the construction of gas industry installations on our country's territory helps secure the GDR national economy supplies of natural gas from the USSR on a long-term basis.

The talks were held in a traditionally friendly spirit.

The agreement was signed by B.I. Aristov, USSR foreign trade minister, V.S. Chernomyrdin, USSR gas industry minister, and V.G. Chirskov, USSR minister of construction of petroleum and gas industry enterprises; H. Soelle, GDR foreign trade minister, and W. Mitzinger, GDR coal and power minister.

HONECKER, QADDUMI VOICE SUPPORT FOR SOVIET POLICY

LD222108 Moscow TASS in English 1929 GMT 22 Jan 86

[Text] Berlin, January 22 TASS -- The positive reaction to the recent statement by the General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev who proposed to fully liquidate nuclear arms facilitated in many ways an improvement of the international climate. On the other hand, a fulfilment of the imperialist plans of "star wars" would make the world even more unstable and the development of the international situation unpredictable. This was stated by the General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany, Chairman of the State Council of the GDR Erich Honecker when receiving today Faruq Qaddumi, member of the Executive Committee and head of the Political Department of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, who is here on a visit. The GDR leader and the PLO representative confirmed their support for the USSR's proposals on an all-embracing and lasting settlement of the Middle East problem.

Erich Honecker noted the importance in the present Middle East situation, that has been aggavated by imperialism, of unity within the PLO on an anti-imperialist basis and also of its interaction with all patriotic Arab forces.

Faruq Qaddumi briefed Erich Honecker on pressing problems of the Palestinian people's struggle under the PLO's leadership for the implementation of its inalienable rights, including the right to create its own independent state, and also on the efforts taken to restore unity of Palestinian ranks. He expressed the PLO's gratitude for the GDR's constant solidarity with the Palestinian people's just struggle.

BUGAYEV DISCUSSES COOPERATION WITH CSSR'S BAHYL

OW230551 Moscow Television Service in Russian 0105 GMT 22 Jan 86

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] Bugayev, minister of civil aviation, received Bahyl, CSSR minister of general engineering, on 21 January. Questions of the further development of cooperation between the USSR and Czechoslovakia in the fields of designing, building, and operating new aircraft for local airlines were discussed.

ALBANIAN PAPER CONDEMNS U.S. 'ANTI-LIBYAN CAMPAIGN'

PM210932 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 Jan 86 First Edition p 5

[TASS report under general heading "To Prevent Intervention"]

[Text] Tirana, 17 Jan -- The Albanian news agency ATA reports that the newspaper ZERI I POPULLIT has condemned the U.S. anti-Libyan campaign launched on the pretext of the so-called struggle against terrorism. U.S. imperialism, the newspaper writes, is attempting to settle accounts with Libya because it has rejected U.S. diktat. The aggressive actions against the Libyan Jamahiriyah are a new manifestation of the expansionist policy of the United States and Israel which, with direct support from Washington, is engaged in genocide against the Palestinian people.

The Albanian people ZERI I POPULLIT stresses, demand an end to the campaign of threats and blackmail against sovereign Libya.

TOLKUNOV MEETS WITH FRENCH PARLIAMENTARIANS

LD2?2138 Moscow TASS in English 2034 GMT 22 Jan 86

[Text] Paris, January 22 TASS -- A visiting delegation of the parliamentary group of the USSR led by Lev Tolkunov, chairman of the Soviet of the Union of the USSR Supreme Soviet, chairman of the parliamentary group of the USSR, had meetings and conversations with French parliamentarians today.

During a meeting with Louis Mermaz, president of the National Assembly of France, Lev Tolkunov touched upon the new Soviet peace initiatives which were set out in the recent statement of Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and which are aimed at eliminating nuclear arms. Louis Mermaz positively appraised the Soviet Union's proposals put forward in the statement.

The sides also exchanged views on matters concerning bilateral interparliamentary contracts and Franco-Soviet relations. It was pointed out in this connection that the official visit to France by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, gave a new impulse to the development of relations between the two countries.

In a conversation with the Soviet delegation, Alain Poher, president of the Senate, stressed that the parliamentarians of the two countries can substantially contribute to the cause of developing Franco-Soviet relations. He expressed the view that all countries must participate in the solution of such important international problems as the prevention of nuclear war which may lead to mankind's annihilation.

Alain Poher gave a dinner in honour of the delegation of Soviet parliamentarians.

Speaking at the dinner, Lev Tolkunov pointed out that meetings between the parliamentarians of the two countries became an integral and useful part of the broad political dialogue between France and the USSR.

Touching upon the international situation, Lev Tolkunov pointed out the need to overcome negative, confrontational trends in the world, the trends which have been increasing in recent years and to clear the way for the curtailment of the nuclear arms race on earth, for the prevention of an arms race in outer space, for lessening the war danger in general and for the formation of trust as an integral component of relationships between states.

Herein is the meaning of the Soviet Union's latest peace initiatives, he went on to say. The statement of Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, setting out a Soviet peace programme and calling on mankind to rid the earth of nuclear weapons by the end of the twentieth century, is a logical continuation and development of the latest Soviet peace initiatives.

"But, of course", Lev Tolkunov said, "special role in finally ridding the peoples of the nuclear threat belongs to the states possessing nuclear weapons. We expect that France, guided by the wide interests of strengthening peace and international security, will make its contribution to the attainment of this great and humane goal."

"We want 1986 to become not just a year of peace but a year which would make it possible to approach the end of the twentieth century under the watchword of peace and nuclear disarmament", Lev Tolkunov pointed out. "The Soviet parliamentarians", the leader of the Soviet delegation went on to say, "see the task in steering matters, jointly with the parliamentarians of other countries and of France, in particular, to the attainment of these goals."

Touching upon Franco-Soviet relations, he said that the Soviet parliamentarians, just like all Soviet people, and the Soviet leadership come out in favour of developing in every way and strengthening Soviet-French cooperation in various feilds. We would like the political dialogue between the USSR and France to be constantly a factor in the strengthening of European security and in stabilisation of international relations as a whole," Lev Tolkunov said. [no opening quote marks as received]

FURTHER ON TALKS WITH FRENCH TRADE DELEGATION

Dadyants Assesses Cooperation

PM221038 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 16 Jan 86 p 3

[G. Dadyants article: "New Prospects of Cooperation"]

[Text] A scheduled session of the Soviet-French Grand Commission opens today in Moscow. Both Moscow and Paris attach serious significance to it.

The Soviet Union and France are bound not only by their historical friendship, mutual influence of cultures, and long-standing trade contacts, but also by their common concern for peace and security on our continent. "When Russia and France, and the Soviet Union and France have cooperated," M.S. Gorbachev said when speaking on French television on the eve of his official visit to Paris, "it has been to their advantage, and also to that of all Europe and the entire world. And, conversely, estrangement and enmity have damaged our national interests and have had a negative effect on the international atmosphere."

Let us recall that General de Gaulle once termed rapprochement between the USSR and France as a categorical imperative of history, geography, and common sense.

Today it is a question of breaking the logic of confrontation, establishing military balance at the lowest possible level, strengthening mutual trust, preventing an arms race in space, moving toward disarmament, and finding approaches to the global problems facing mankind on the brink of the 3d millennium.

France and the USSR are in favor of a return to the policy of detente, of space being an arena for peaceful cooperation rather than military confrontation, and an increasing European role in international affairs. The Soviet Union properly evaluates France's intention of pursuing an independent policy in the international arena and also its refusal to participate in Reagan's so-called "Strategic Defense Initiative."

Cooperation in the political sphere always relies on firm business ties and, naturally, improvements in trade, economic, scientific and technical cooperation between the USSR and France were discussed at the meeting in Paris.

It must be immediately said that, despite certain shortcomings, the mechanism of this cooperation works quite well as a whole. France is one the the USSR's major trade and economic partners in the capitalist world. Over the last 5 years (we are taking the data from 1980 through 1984), our trade turnover has amounted to approximately R20 billion. This means that it has more than doubled in comparison with the previous 5-year period. The trade balance which, in recent years, has seen France with a deficit, appears to be leveling off. This has been achieved by increasing exports of French agricultural, ferrous metallurgical, chemical, and petrochemical products to the USSR and through new, mutually profitable contracts.

Major long-term agreements have been concluded in the past year with a number of leading French firms, mainly envisaging cooperation in the construction of gas purifying complexes in the Soviet Union. An agreement has been signed with the leading French metallurgical concern Usinor on supplying the USSR with certain types of metallurgical products. Cooperation with French firms is being expanded in the production of consumer goods, and also in the agro-industrial complex.

However, the present level of trade, economic, scientific and technical ties between the two countries cannot satisfy either side. Life and the development of scientific and technical progress make new demands. Both the USSR and France place great emphasis on the development of the most advanced technologies. Naturally, this opens up new horizons for bilateral cooperation but, at the same time, it also makes new demands on its participants.

In order to cooperate successfully, all obstacles to cooperation must first be removed. Such obstacles exist. Although France has recently more than once opposed pressure from Washington, which is attempting to curtail trade and economic ties between East and West, it nevertheless adheres to the "rules" developed by Cocom [Coordinating Committee for Multilateral Export Controls] -- the organ for control over exports to socialist countries. Incidentally, this bastard organization has also found refuge in Paris.

There are also factors retarding matters within France itself. It must be borne in mind that competition among Western firms in questions of the quality of commodities and equipment offered and prices for them is constantly increasing. What is more, at the present stage, the Soviet Union is interested in purchasing only the most advanced equipment and technologies.

Soviet foreign trade organizations count on cooperation with French firms in the business of increasing the exports of Soviet mechanical and technical products to France. As is well known, our country is now taking measures to produce goods and equipment of a standard equal to that of the best world models, which we believe will be able to fulfill demand on the French market.

New prospects for cooperation have opened up for our countries since M.S. Gorbachev's visit to France. Some of these were discussed by the leaders of the two countries in Paris -- for example, the project to build a "Tokamak" international thermonuclear reactor in the development of which the USSR, the United States, France, Japan, and other countries participated. If this project is implemented, mankind will gain a virtually inexhaustible source of energy. It is well known that the USSR and France have more than 40 joint experiments behind them in the peaceful study of outer space and also of the planet Venus and Halley's Comet. An accord has been reached on possible participation by a French cosmonaut in a protracted manned flight on a Soviet orbital station.

A considerable role in the matter of organizing new forms of economic cooperation must be played by the Franco-Soviet Chamber of Commerce, which unites more than 200 French companies, banks, and other institutions. It is precisly this body that must enlist medium-size and small firms into work, firms which do not yet have an outlet into the Soviet market. Many of these firms, incidentally, operate on the latest technologies.

The scheduled session of the permanent Soviet-French commission opening in Moscow today is to concretize the principled accords on increasing trade and economic, and scientific and technical cooperation between the USSR and France which were reached in Paris last year and, consequently, to contribute to the greatest possible return on this cooperation for both sides.

We do not turn a blind eye to the fact that there are circles in France which do not like the idea that our relations are gathering momentum and dynamism, that political dialogue has been renewed, and that economic, scientific, and technical ties are once again expanding. These circles would like to weaken the good trends in the development of Soviet-French relations. But it is not they who really count in present-day France. Common sense, to no smaller degree than a sense of history and geography, is characteristic of the majority of French people.

Economic, Science Protocol Signed

LD171855 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1622 GMT 17 Jan 86

[Text] Moscow, 17 Jan (TASS) -- The protocol on the 20th session of the joint permanent Soviet-French commission, which ended here today, provides for the expansion of economic and scientific and technical cooperation between the USSR and France. It was signed on the Soviet side by Boris Aristov, USSR minister for foreign trade, and on the French side by Edith Cresson, minister of foreign trade and industrial redeployment.

In particular the document notes that cooperation in science has been developing successfully of late, primarily in research and exploration of space for peaceful purposes, atomic power generation, public health and medicine, and also in fundamental and applied research in astronomy, high-temperature physics, crystallography and the physical and chemical foundations of life.

The commission approved the work by specialists of the two countries in the further improvement of television broadcasting equipment, in particular that using the digital transmission of signals. It also proposed that the joint activity of Soviet and French organizations aimed at defining subjects which open up new prospects for industrial cooperation in the protection of the environment, civil aircraft construction and computer technology, should be continued.

The protocol notes that during the period that the 1980-1985 economic agreement has been in operation, trade between the USSR and France has increased by approximately 2.5 times. However, there has been practically no growth in trade turnover during the past 2 years. In this connection the sides expressed themselves in favor of measures being taken for the resumption of the expansion of bilateral trade. As Boris Aristov stressed, the further growth of trade turnover lies on the path of industrial cooperation and the expansion of deliveries of machines and equipment in both directions.

During the course of the commission's work it was noted that considerable potential exists for widening and diversifying cooperation in the agro-industrial sector. At the present time, active talks are being held on a number of new projects in motor-vehicle construction, the chemical, metallurgical and gas industries and in the field of railway transport.

TASS NOTES 'POSITIVE RESPONSE' TO CYPRUS PROPOSAL

LD221337 Moscow TASS in English 1309 GMT 22 Jan 86

[Text] New York January 22 TASS -- By TASS correspondent Arkadiy Sidoruk:

The Soviet proposals on principles and ways of settling the Cyprus issue evoked a positive response at the headquarters of the world community. U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar welcomed the important initiative. His official spokesman declared that the Soviet proposals are being studied with immense attention.

Javier Perez de Cuellar highly assessed the Soviet Union's support for his mediatory efforts directed at attaining a fair and lasting solution to the Cyprus problem.

The Soviet proposals stress that convening a representative international conference within the U.N. framework is a real way to ensure a cardinal solution to international aspects of the Cyprus problem. It could come up with a treaty or another document providing for the demilitarization of the island, including the withdrawal of all foreign troops and the removal of all foreign military bases and facilities, other important measures.

The Cyprus tragedy was brought about by the policy of the United States and other NATO countries which intend turning it into their "unsinkable aircraft-carrier" in the Mediterranean. More than a third of the island's territory have been forced away from it. The United States is setting up the region's biggest military airfield and a naval base for interventionist Rapid Deployment Force units in the northern part of Cyprus.

The proclamation of the so-called "Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus" was a direct outcome of imperialist interference in the international affairs of Cyprus. The separatist action was repeatedly denounced by the General Assembly and the Security Council of the United Nations as contradictory to the fair settlement of the Cyprus problems.

It is believed at the U.N. circles that the implementation of the Soviet proposals open a real way towards averting the grave threat looming over Cyprus, preserving it as an independent, territorially integral state, and eliminating the serious seat of tension in the Mediterranean.

GREEK PRIME MINISTER CITED ON U.S. MISSILES

LD221354 Moscow TASS in English 1333 GMT 22 Jan 86

[Text] Athens, January 22 TASS -- The decision taken by the United States and its political allies to deploy American missiles in Europe has meant a disruption of the military parity on a global scale, Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou said at a gala meeting of the movement for national independence, international peace and disarmament, which was devoted to the U.N.-proclaimed international year of peace.

He said that all East-West talks now under way in the field of disarmament are threatened with U.S. intransigence on the "Strategic Defense Initiative" issue. Washington presents the militarization of outer space as a defense system that would put an end to the nuclear arms race. But the development of such a system in fact would only give a boost to an unrestrained arms race and can ultimately lead to a "nuclear winter".

Andreas Papandreou spoke highly of the proposal by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, to eliminate all nuclear weapons and all other weapons of mass destruction by the year 2000. It is not just a proposal, but a concrete plan of action covering all kinds of weapons of mass destruction, he said, adding that the Soviet initiative is aimed at protecting life on the planet.

"So the question is in order: Who and for what reason may be against this program of exceptional significance?," Andreas Papandreou said. "We express the wish that Washington study Mikhail Gorbachev's proposal carefully and in good faith. All the world's peoples expect this since the future of civilization on earth will depend in large measure on the U.S. final decision."

IZVESTIYA NOTES SPANISH-ISRAELI DIPLOMATIC TIES

PM221014 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 20 Jan 86 Morning Edition p 4

[Own correspondent V. Vernikov dispatch: "Madrid's Decision"]

[Text] Madrid -- Spain and Israel have decided to establish diplomatic relations; a mutual exchange of instruments of ratification took place between the heads of the two governments, F. Gonzalez and S. Peres, in The Hague on Sunday.

Reporting this, Spanish television notes that Spain has thus legally normalized relations with Israel which have existed de facto for the last 5-7 years.

At a press conference held immediately after the session of the country's Council of Ministers, which adopted this decision, Foreign Minister F. Fernandez-Ordonez particularly stressed that the establishment of diplomatic relations certainly does not signify support by the Spanish side for the Israeli occupation of seized Arab territories or for its refusal to satisfy the Palestinian people's just demand for the creation of their own state but, on the contrary, will make it possible for Spain to make its contribution to a just settlement of the situation in the Near East.

All these clarifications have an underlying meaning, the Madrid newspapers point out. The point is that many Arab countries repeatedly warned Madrid against this step, regarding it as an act designed to please the EEC countries and the United States. A recent conference in Fes of ministers of countries belonging to the Islamic Conference Organization even sent a memorandum to the Spanish Government warning about the "possible economic consequences for Spain of establishing relations with Israel."

SURGUCHEV COMMENTS ON GREENHAM COMMON 'SPIES' STORY

LD221449 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1130 GMT 22 Jan 86

[Igor Surguchev commentary]

[Text] [Announcer] In Great Britain another campaign is under way to discredit the antiwar movement in the country, at the base of which is the slanderous affirmation about the presence of, supposedly, agents of the Soviet military intelligence service among British women keeping a peace watch at the U.S. Air Force base at Greenham Common. This anti-Soviet lie was started by the British weekly JANE'S DEFENCE WEEKLY, whose publishers are closely connected with the militarist circles of the West. Here is a Mayak commentary; at the microphone is Igor Surguchev:

It is noteworthy that the author of the slanderous article published by this journal spends his time over the ocean and is a consultant of the Pentagon and the U.S. State Department. There is no doubt that those who gave him the opportunity of writing on the pages of the British publication with such an ill-intentioned and completely absurd conjecture were guided by a wish to kill two birds with one stone: To blacken the fighters for peace in Britain and to denigrate our country by provoking distrust toward its consistent peace-loving policies. No sensible person can fail to be struck by the white threads with which this shameful venture is sewn.

The courageous British women who are picketing the Greenham Common base have already been waging a struggle for 3 years against the siting of U.S. first-strike nuclear missiles there, and the whole of this time both the police and the British secret service have devoted close attention to them. But no one on the banks of the Thames has been able to discover Soviet spies among the participants in the peace camp at Greenham Common. Over the ocean, however, they have managed to see them, and they are rushing to open Briton's eyes to how the crafty Russians are using the antiwar movement in their country for the purpose of spying against the West.

In order to lend credence to this provocative venture, the British Ministry of Defense has stated that it is examining the report by JANE'S DEFENCE WEEKLY in all seriousness. It turns out that the base and completely unsubstantiated lie is receiving certain support even from the British Government. Here one can see Whitehall's clear aspiration to turn the cheap fraud into something more than it actually is.

The moment for whipping up an anti-Soviet fuss and discrediting the British peace supporters was not, of course, chosen by chance. Precisely now, when the peace-loving world public, with great enthusiasm and approval, has received the statement by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev and the concrete realistic plans set out in it for the elimination of mass destruction weapons, the forces of militarism and reaction in the West are desperately trying to neutralize the effect of the historic Soviet proposals on the broad masses of people.

Unable to counter the USSR initiatives with anything, these forces are gambling on stirring up an anti-Soviet mood and on undermining the prestige of the antiwar movement in the West which grows and becomes stronger, inspired by more and more new convincing proof of our country's genuine love of peace.

ITALIAN COMMUNISTS PROTEST PRESENCE OF U.S. BASE

LD230053 Moscow TASS in English 2342 GMT 22 Jan 86

[Text] Rome, January 22 TASS -- The newspaper L'UNITA reports today that the Peace and Disarmament Committee of the city of Aviano has got information that the Pentagon has begun constructing underground bunkers in the territory of its air base in that populated locality.

The U.S. Air Force base at Aviano is reckoned among the biggest in Western Europe. Its area is more than six hundred hectares. Huge hangars that stretch along runways house newest U.S. fighter bombers provided with nuclear weapons. The planes are capable of reaching within a space of hours any area of Europe, the Middle East or the North of Africa declared by Washington to be a "zone of U.S. vital interests".

Local anti-war, democratic organizations have long been protesting against the existence of the base. The Communists of Aviano, L'UNITA points out, resolutely demand that it be dismantled together with all the other U.S. and NATO military facilities in Italian territory. This demand is being also supported by the Peace and Disarmament Committee of Aviano. It is essential to fully rid the Italian peninsula of the presence of U.S. and NATO militarists, stated the committee's chairman Valentino de Piante. As long as foreign military base facilities exist in Italy, he emphasized, the country will live under a constant threat of being drawn into a nuclear conflict.

ITALIAN COMMUNIST PRAISES GORBACHEV PROPOSAL

LD202310 Moscow TASS in English 1755 GMT 20 Jan 86

[Text] Rome, January 20 TASS -- "I regard the programme of stage-by-stage nuclear disarmament proposed by General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev as extremely important", Lorenzo Gianotti, chief of the section of problems of peace and disarmament of the Central Committee of the Italian Communist Party, one of the leaders of the joint national committee of the struggle for peace and disarmament, told a TASS correspondent. This can promote the successful holding of the Soviet-U.S. talks in Geneva, Lorenzo Gianotti said.

The USSR, specifically proposes to eliminate at the first stage U.S. and Soviet medium-range missiles in the European zone, L. Gianotti said. This is a correct measure. The European states must support any initiative that is aimed at the reduction and elimination of medium-range nuclear arms on the continent. "I believe the Italian Government could take, on its part, a step that would promote this trend to disarmament: to freeze the number of U.S. cruise missiles deployed at the NATO base in Comiso, and then to embark on their scaling down."

L. Gianotti declared against the "star wars" plans worked out by the U.S. Administration. The SDI programme, he said, means a new horrible step towards the disastrous arms race. This is why the governments of West European countries must say "no" to this programme, must not join in it in any way. To remove nuclear weapons from the life of humanity, it is necessary to strive for their destruction.

AUSTRIAN COMMUNIST PARTY LEADER ON INITIATIVE

LD211802 Moscow TASS in English 1747 GMT 21 Jan 86

[Text] Vienna, January 21 TASS -- The chairman of the Communist Party of Austria, Franz Muhri, has welcomed the proposals formulated in a statement by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, for completely eliminating nuclear weapons on earth by the year 2000 andbanning chemical weapons and the Soviet Union's decision to extend its unilateral moratorium on all nuclear explosions for another three months.

Speaking in Vienna, he said the latest important foreign policy initiatives of the USSR bear out the consistently peaceful nature of its foreign policy. Muhri said that the implementation of these proposals is inseparably linked with the non-militarization of outer space.

CORRECTION TO SOVIET-UK CONSULTATION REPORT

The following correction pertains to the item headlined "Soviet-UK Politial Consultation Held in London," published in the 22 January Soviet Union DAILY REPORT, page G 6, only paragraph, penultimate line:

...Nikita Ryzhov and Geoffrey Howe, the foreign secretary, as well as between Nikita Ryzhov and Paul Channon... (supplying line)

COMMUNIST, SOCIAL AGENCIES RESPOND TO YEMEN CRISIS

Arab Communists' Appeal

PM201917 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 Jan 86 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Regarding Events in PDRY"]

[Text] Damascus, 20 Jan -- The SANA agency has disseminated an appeal by communist and workers parties of the Arab east to the Yemen Socialist Party (YSP) in connection with the latest [posledniye] events in Democratic Yemen. It contains a call for a halt to the armed clashes in the South Yemeni capital. The appeal emphasizes the impermissibility of any forms of outside interference in the internal affairs of the PDRY.

Aid Sent to PDRY

LD221744 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1705 GMT 22 Jan 86

[Text] Moscow, 22 Jan (TASS) -- Urgent assistance to the population of the PDRY [People's Democratic Republic of Yemen], who have suffered as a consequence of the armed clashes that have recently occurred in that country, will be rendered by the executive committee of the Soviet Red Cross and Red Crescent societies. They have adopted this decision in the spirit of friendship and close cooperation typical of the relations between the Soviet Union and the PDRY. Medicines, bandages, blankets, tents, baby food, and other goods are being sent to Aden.

TALYZIN REITERATES SOVIET SUPPORT FOR LIBYA

LD230933 Tripoli JANA in English 0855 GMT 23 Jan 86

[Text] Moscow, Jumada Awal, 11 Jan 23, Jamahiriyah News Agency -- Nikolay Talyzin, the candidate member of the Soviet Politburo and first deputy of the prime minister and chairman of the states planning committee, stressed the Soviet Union's supportive and constant stand towards al-Jamahiriyah.

In his speech given at a banquet he gave in honour of Brigadier Abu Bakir Yunis Jabir, commander in chief of the Libyan Armed Forces, Talyzin condemned vigorously the U.S. imperialist plot against al-Jamahiriyah.

Al-Qadhdhafi Decries 'Economic War'

LD201532 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1251 GMT 20 Jan 86

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] Leader of the Libyan revolution Mu'ammer al-Qadhdhafi has termed the discriminatory U.S. measures against Libya economic war. He said the reason for the hostile campaign unleashed by the United States is Libya's support for the Palestinian people's just cause and the Arab nation's unity.

HAMMADI MEETS KOMSOMOL FIRST SECRETARY IN MOSCOW

JN221518 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1405 GMT 22 Jan 86

[Text] Moscow, 22 Jan (SANA) -- Comfade Sa'id Hammadi, Arab Socialist Ba'th Party Retional Command member and president of the Revolution Youth Federation in the Syrian Arab Republic, met here yesterday [21 January] with Viktor Mishin, first secretary of the All-Union Komsomol in the Soviet Union. They reviewed developments in the Arab region and the international arena. Mishin appreciated Syria's role in confronting imperialist plots in the region and affirmed Soviet support for this role, particularly in confronting the aggressive U.S. escalation.

Comrade Hammadi expressed Syria's appreciation for the Soviet stands supporting peoples' struggle, as well as its peaceful initiatives aiming at removing the danger of nuclear war.

Talks touched on the close ties between the Revolution Youth Federation and the Komsomol and the need to continue to bolster these ties.

SUDANESE-SOVIET ECONOMIC TALKS TO BEGIN 23 JAN

JN221443 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1430 GMT 22 Jan 86

[Excerpts] Khartoum, 22 Jan (SUNA) -- Talks between a Soviet economic delegation and officials from the Finance and Economic Planning Ministry will begin here tomorrow, Thursday [23 January].

The Soviet economic delegation arrived in the country at dawn today [22 January] on a visit that will last until 2 February.

LEBANESE FORCES CHIEF RESIGNS FOLLOWING DEFEAT

PM171113 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 17 Jan 86 First Edition p 5

[Own correspondent Yu. Glukhov report: "A Step Backward"]

[Text] Beirut, 16 Jan -- As local radio stations report, E. Hubayqah, leader of the "Lebanese forces," who signed the tripartite agreement on the normalization of the situation in Lebanon and the attainment of national consensus in the country together with W. Jumblatt, chairman of the Progressive Socialist Party, and N. Birri, leader of the Shi'ite Amal movement, has resigned. After fierce clashes in the eastern (Christian) zone of Beirut, opponents of the agreement were victorious. They are the Kataeb party, whose founder was the father of the current president A. al-Jumayyil, and a unit of the "Lebanese forces" headed by S. Ja'ja', chief of the general staff of these formations, which has broken away from Hubauqah.

Thus, the process of national reconciliation in Lebanon has again suffered a setback.

LESOTHO COUP 'INSTIGATED' BY SOUTH AFRICA

MB221958 Moscow in Zulu to Southern Africa 1800 GMT 22 Jan 86

[Text] According to AFP reports from Maseru, Lesotho's capital, the military council which toppled the previous government has issued a decree placing the country under military rule and has also imposed a 6:00 pm to 6:00 am curfew. In an announcement in Maseru, the public was urged to surrender guns and weapons issued under the previous government. Lekhanye, head of the Military Council, has indicated that military rule in Lesotho is a temporary measure. He has urged the public to forgive past mistakes and promote a spirit of reconciliation, peace, and harmony.

If we consider the overall situation in Lesotho, we can report that absolute peace and nonviolence exists in that country, although the international airports are still closed, AFP added. South Africa authorities turned the economic screws on Lesotho on 1 January, when they unilaterally launched a blockade of transport vehicles bound for Lesotho, thereby depriving the people of Lesotho of essential goods and services.

A CBS report on events in Lesotho noted that the toppled government of prime minister Leabua Jonathan was well known for its antiapartheid stance; it was dedicated to the eradication of apartheid in South Africa. TransAfrica, one of the most reputables U.S. organizations fighting apartheid, observed that in Washington, the economic strangulation of Lesotho, a landlocked country totally surrounded by South Africa, is regarded as part of a working strategy of destabilization against South Africa's politically independent neighbors.

The Lesotho coup came about as a direct consequence of Lesotho's economic strangulation by South Africa. Some observers say that the coup in Maseru was instigated by South Africa since the RSA authorities were unhappy with Lesotho's stand on the apartheid issue.

AMBASSADOR TO ZAIRE REASSIGNED TO OTHER WORK

PM221117 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 22 Jan 86 First Edition p 6

[Unattributed announcement under general heading "Chronicle"]

[Text] The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium has relieved Comrade Vladimir Gerasimovich Filatov from his duties as USSR Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the Republic of Zaire in connection with his transfer to other work.

LAVRENTYEV ON 'PEACE MARCH' THROUGH CENTRAL AMERICA

LD211404 Moscow Demestic Service in Russian 0900 GMT 21 Jan 86

["Time, Events, People" program presented by Igor Grigoryev with Vyacheslav Lavrentyev commentary]

[Excerpts] [Grigoryev] The peace march through the Central American countries is comming to an end. International affairs journalist Vyacheslav Lavrentyev discusses it in detail:

[Lavrentyev] The right-wing press attempted to discredit the march even before it started, describing it as yet another communist undertaking. But, as prominent U.S. Democrat Jesse Jackson, Colombian writer and Nobel prize winner Garcia Marcos, priests from Japan and scientists from Norway and Denmark started to arrive in Panama to participate in the march, this noble initiative's critics were obliged to tone down their ardor. The march indiputedly has been an international action, the participants of which tried to make their contribution towards normalizing the extremely tense situation in the Central American region. When the organizers planned to proceed through all of the countries of Central America, they announced their desire to bring about increased mutual understanding between Nicaraguans and costa Ricans, Hondurans, and Salvadorans. The Peace March threw light upon who truly wants peace in the region, and who, under cover of eloquent phrases, is in fact, undermining peace.

The demonstrators had no sooner reached the second country, Costa Rica, than local black shirts greeted them with stones and clubs. The Costa Rican police calmly looked on as people enjoying world-wide respect were beaten up. After the warm and joyous reception given the marchers on Nicaraguan soil, they were awaited on the Honduran border by soldiers armed to the teeth. The Honduran regime, acting on Washington's direct orders, refused to let the peace envoys enter their territory. This country, as you know, has been turned by the Pentagon into the main strong-point for attacks upon Nicaragua, and the local authorities did not want representatives of the international public to see this with their own eyes. El Salvador ruler Napoleon Duarte, another Washington puppet, followed Honduras' example. However, Honduran peace supporters held their own peace demonstration as a sign of solidarity with the envoys from the other countries. The peace marchers were not able to count on a warm welcome from Guatemalan authorities, either. That country is notorious for its mass violation of human rights. But the investiture of a new republican president, Vinicio Cerezo, took place in Guatemala on 14 January; he declared that he would try to put an end to the lack of rights in the country and promote the search for peace in Central America. In this situation, the international procession, joined by thousands of local sympathizers, held a grand meeting in the center of Guatemalan capital. And, finally, the participants of this more than 2,000 kilo-meter march stepped upon the soil of friendly Mexico on 17 January whose Contadora Group, is taking an active part in seeking peace for the Central American peoples.

Thus, this march, unprecedneted in the region, is coming to an end. The international public now knows where the threat to Central American peace emanates.

GUATEMALAN FOREIGN MINISTER ON FOREIGN POLICY LINE

LD201152 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1520 GMT 18 Jan 86

[Text] Guatemala, 18 Jan (TASS) -- Guatemala will adhere in the international arena to the principles of respecting the rights of peoples to self-determination and non-interference in the affairs of other countries. This is what Guatemalan Foreign Affairs Minister Marion Quinonez Amezquita declared today in an interview with a TASS correspondent.

The civilian government will direct its main political and diplomatic efforts toward strengthening peace in Central America and preserving the peoples' rights to self-determination the minister noted. We believe that economic development, which will make an improvement of the masses' situation possible, is necessary in the Central American countries. However, this cannot be achieved while mistrust among states remains.

Guatemala would like to take an active position in the struggle for the achievement of regional peace. Guatemala believes that the basic instrument on this path must be dialogue, which provides mutual respect and creates an atmosphere of trust.

M. Quinonez noted that the process of talks among the countries of Central America, as well as within the Contadora Group, has stopped recently. A situation had arisen, in which hope of achieving accords aimed at a political settlement in Central America, almost had been lost. This hope was born again following the meeting of the presidents of the Central American countries, on 15 January in the Guatemalan capital. The presidents arrived a t the conclusion that it is possible to find a way out from the current situation.

The creation of a foundation for follow-up talks, the desire of all interested sides to seek common points of contact were the main positive outcome of the meeting. These [common points] are embodied in the fact that Central America needs peace, socio-economic development, and noninterference in the internal affairs of one another. There exists the political will among political leaders of the region's countries to respect these principles, as well as the right of all peoples, including the people of Nicaragua, to self-determination, the Guatemalan foreign affairs minister declared.

COLOMBIAN, SOVIET MINISTERS MEET IN MOSCOW

PA222117 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 21 Jan 86

[Text] Soviet Foreign Trade Minister Boris Ivanovich Aristov has met in Moscow with Colombian Economic Development Minister Gustavo Castro Guerrero, who has been in the Soviet Union on an official visit since 17 January. The two ministers discussed matters related to the commercial ties between Colombia and the Soviet Union and other aspects of their bilateral relations. Castro Guerrero heads the Colombian delegation to the fourth meeting of the Colombian-Soviet Intergovernmental Commission for Economic, Commerical, and Technical and Scientific Cooperation. The sessions began on Monday and will end tomorrow.

URUGUAYAN LEADERS ASSESS COUNTRY'S STATUS

PM221156 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 17 Jan 86 Morning Edition p 5

[APN special correspondent Karen Khachaturov dispatch for IZVESTIYA: "Uruguay-86: 20 Years on"]

[Excerpts] Montevideo-Moscow -- The freedom-loving Uruguayan people did not resign themselves to the establishment of a dictatorship. As a result of their tenacious and continous struggle the military was forced to step down and in March last year a constitutional government took office. The embezzling generals had brought the country's economy to a desperate state. A socioeconomic crisis unprecedented in Uruguay's history struck every stratum of the population, with the exception of the 5 percent of the privileged people among it who own two-thirds of the wealth produced by the people. The greatest burden fell to the lot of the working people, particularly the working class.

This, among other things, was discussed during my conversation with General Liber Seregni, president of the Broad Front. He spent about 10 years in a prison cell and honorably upheld the convictions of a true democrat. The Broad Front headed by him has become the third most important political organization in the country and a real alternative to the traditional system of bourgeois landowning power.

"The dictatorship bequeathed us a most grave legacy," Liber Seregni said. "I will cite just a few statistics. In the last 4 years unemployment has doubled and now affects, either wholly or partially, more than 30 percent of the active population. Real wages were almost halved during the years of the dictatorial regime, many people are literally starving, and allocations for education, health care, and other social needs are miserably low. Industry, agriculture, and foreign trade are stagnating. Competition from the 'Common Market' is reducing exports of traditional goods such as meat, leather, and wool. Landless peasants are fleeing to the cities and swelling the army of the unemployed.

"Like other Latin American countries, Uruguay is being strangled by the noose of foreign debts," Liber Seregni went on. "Under the dictatorship the foreign debt increased eightfold; every Uruguayan, including every baby and old person, owes $2,000 to international creditors. In addition to which there is the gigantic domestic debt owned by national industrial and agricultural enterprises to the banks, which are virtually all foreign. The nationalization of the banks is therfore one of the Broad Front's program demands."

"The consolidation of all antidictatorial, democratic forces is the main task today," Rodney Arismendi, secretary general of the Communist Party of Urugauay Central Committee, stressed in conversation. "Our party has paid most dearly with the lives of its sons and daughters for the victory over the fallen regime. That is why the communists' prestige is so high and their numbers are growing. But for this very same reason internal reaction, with U.S. imperialist's blessing, is trying to undermine the communists' influence and split the Broad Front and the united militant trade unions. Only through unity can the people thwart the threat of a military coup."

Uruguay has acquired high international prestige through its peace-loving foreign policy course and it was no accident that it was the first South American state to establish diplomatic relations with the young Land of the Soviets. The military junta undermined that deserved prestige through its primitive anticommunism.

At present, despite all the disagreements with the government in the domestic policy sphere, the democratic forces express solidarity with the foreign policy actions aimed at reducing international tension and eliminating regional conflicts, above all, in Central America. A typical sign: 2 decades ago I left Uruguay just before the country's rulers broke off diplomatic relations with Cuba under pressure from Washington; my present arrival, however, coincided with the restoration of relations with the Island of Freedom.

Julio Mario Sanguinetti, the country's president, spoke during an interview with me about Uruguay's foreign policy. The conversation took place in his new residence -- a cumbersome concrete building in early constructivist style. The military department bosses built this imposing house for themselves and, seemingly in mockery, called it "Freedom." The military then found themselves out of a job and the head of state's office moved into the new building.

The Uruguayan president warmly recalled his first trip to the Soviet Union, which he made around 20 years ago, as a journalist. He described Soviet-Uruguayan relations as an example of the policy of peaceful coexistence between states with different social systems and observed that the 60th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries, which is to take place soon, should serve to boost the development of their comprehensive ties. J.M. Sanguinetti spoke highly of the Soviet Union's peace-loving foreign policy course and stressed the great significance of CPSU Central Committee General Secretary M.S. Gorbachev's meeting with U.S. President R. Reagan for strengthening world peace.

For Uruguayans world peace is inextricably bound up with peace in their own home and with resolving the complex problems on the difficult path of democratization in all spheres of the country's public life. Soviet people sincerely wish the friendly Uruguayan people success in this cause.